JULY 20TH TO 27TH

WELLAND

Centennial

1858 - 1958

SOUVENIR BOOKLET

75 Cents

Mayor's Message

Mayor Armour L. McCrae

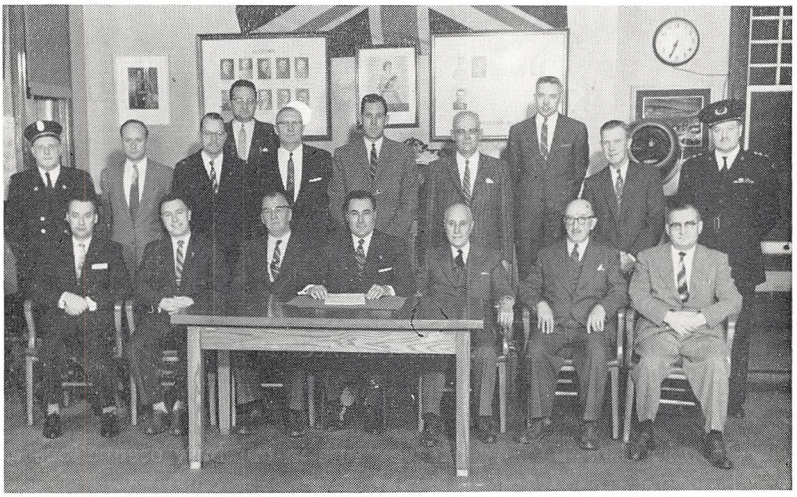
On this, Centennial Week, we pause in our busy occupations to gaze back upon one hundred years of progress. Our growth is not measured in brick and mortor alone, but is best exemplified in the ever-increasing number and diversity of our peoples.

The dream of those early villagers has blossomed into full fruition. We, who followed, have nurtured with tender care the sometimes flickering flame of optimism in the development of this area. Our faith has been justified. Today sitting astride the mighty Welland Ship Canal, strategic link in the great St. Lawrence Seaway Development, our future is secure.

To all those former citizens who are with us on this commemorative occasion, I extend greetings from the Council and myself. May the next one hundred years be as fruitful as the past. To this end, let us all lend our efforts.

Armour L. McCrae,
Mayor

Welland City Council, 1956-58



Front Row, left to right—T. W. Kawalecki, engineer; F. D. Turner, treasurer; J. D. Watt, clerk; Mayor Armour L. McCrae; A. L. Brooks, Q.C., solicitor; J. D. Paterson, assessor; T. J. Richardson, welfare administrator.

Second Row, left to right—Fire Chief C. Upper; Alderman D. Tolmie; Alderman G. J. Macoomb; Alderman Allan Goodman; Alderman W. L. Valencourt; Alderman T. H. Brooke; Alderman Harry Diffin; Alderman B. Phillips; Alderman Don Walker; Police Chief D. M. McArter.

Centennial Committee

Front Row, left to right—H. L. Cudney, Chamber of Commerce representative; H. F. Edwards, secretary, Chamber of Commerce; Harry Diffin, Alderman; Mayor Armour L. McCrae; Miss Joan Raso, Mayor's Secretary; Mrs. O. W. Patterson, president of Welland Business and Professional Women's Club; D. M. Brown, Chairman Bands and Parade.

Second Row, left to right—G. J. Macoomb, Alderman; W. L. Valencourt, Alderman; J. D. Watt, city clerk; J. R. Adams, city librarian and editor of book; Louis L. Ector, chairman of advertising.

Third Row, left to right—B. Phillips, Alderman; F. D. Turner, city treasurer; H. Holcomb, chairman of Centennial; H. L. Zavitz, chairman Variety Show.

Editorial . . .

This is a small pocket-sized brochure; it cannot hope to be definitive; not even the gigantic centennial issue of the Tribune is that.

In it we have tried to capture the flavor of Welland. Welland, as we see it, began as a scruffy little cluster of houses surrounding a smelly little moss-grown aqueduct. And so it might have remained had not some unrecognized citizen, through superior (or more cunning) machinations, managed to wangle for Welland the county seat. This, in the face of frenetic activity by such thriving centers as Port Robinson, Fonthill and Thorold. Port Robinson even went to the trouble, so it is said, of laying a corner-stone for the county buildings. But Port Robinson and the others lost out; Welland prevailed.

To us the particular flavour of Welland is made up of the mournful bleat of a lake steamer, the smoke and clatter of industry and the babel of tongues on King street. The canal, the factories and the people, in roughly that order—this is how we think our town has developed. And this is how we have attempted to present it in this hundredth anniversary booklet.

As editor we have exercised our prerogative in choosing what shall go into this book. Some omissions were not the result of our own design, but because we could persuade no one to write about the subject.

We would like to express our appreciation to all the people who made this book possible: the writers whose names are attached to the articles; the ladies who helped with the typing, especially Miss Rose Yatulis—and finally accolades to those three long-suffering gentlemen who taught this tender-foot a bit about editing: Lou Ector, Mack Middleton and Tom Morrison.

In these few pages we have tried to express the essence of this fascinating little industrial city which has taken us, a comparative stranger, to its heart.

Picture Credits: Old shots donated by J. Kunda, H. Waldon, L. D. McCaw, A. R. Morwood; others from Welland Public Library picture collection copied by Edwin Farkas. Portrait of the mayor by Healey Studios; City council and centennial committee by Tenzen Studios. All other modern shots by Cecil Mitchell with Joe Di Leo pilot in aerial shots. Cartoon by L. V. Hogue.

Our City Owes Its Start to the Canal

by KENNETH MILNE

The Welland Canal? What does it mean to us? To the small boy of a sunny summer afternoon, what better place was there to fish or swim, or to skip stones upon the water. The hiking possibilities of the Island, or of the Dikes are well known, and what was once part of the second Welland Canal has been converted by the City of Welland into a free public swimming pool, where under the life-guard's watchful eye everyone can learn to swim and dive in the approved manner.

There are however some dissenting voices. Anyone who must cross the canal knows full well the curse of the Main St. bridge. It is unfortunate that the layout of our city causes our main streets to intersect at the canal, and the traffic congestion that occurs upon the passage of every boat wastes countless hours of time—to say nothing of late appointments, flared tempers and aggravated ulcers.

But then, for most people, there is always an indefinable aura about a ship—be it trim and shiny, or weatherbeaten and rusty there exists a spirit of adventure, of mysterious cargoes bound for exciting far away places. When the controversial St. Lawrence Seaway is finally opened this spring, many more ships of foreign flags will pass through our city in an ever greater realization of a dream conceived over 250 years ago.

Dreams, however, are not enough by themselves. It required a man of ambition, drive and determination to turn this dream into a living reality.

This man was William Hamilton Merritt who held the post of Financial Agent in the newly formed Welland Canal Company. Through his tireless efforts and ingenuity the canal was at last completed, and on November 30, 1829, two vessels passed from Port Dalhousie, up 12 Mile Creek through the deep cut at Allanburg, and down the Chippawa Creek to the Niagara River, to make their arrival in Buffalo on December 2.

From that day on, many business interests in Queenston, Niagara, and Chippawa were doomed in favour of the many communities which sprang up along the canal. Welland was one of these communities, notably so for a very special reason.

That the canal might have an abundant supply of water to raise ships over the summit, a dam was built at Dunnville on the Grand River, 20 miles away to the southwest, and a feeder canal was dug across the marsh to convey this water to the canal at Port Robinson. The city of Welland has grown up at the spot where this feeder crossed Chippawa Creek. The water level in the feeder was

about 16 feet above the mean water level of the river and this provided a potential supply of water power, though it was not to be developed for several years.

To enable the feeder to pass over the river, there was built a unique structure of white-pine timbers and planks known as "the Aqueduct". All traces of this aqueduct have by now disappeared, but it is thought to have measured 365 feet long by 24 feet wide by about 5 or 6 feet deep.

In terms of present-day Welland, this pioneer canal was located generally along the west side of the present canal. When this channel was being dug the prism of the first canal was discovered clearly marked in the clay, in the eastern shadow of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. From this point it pursued a course north to the Wooden Aqueduct, which was located about 220 feet east of the Niagara St. bridge, and then bore 60 degrees east of north until it intersected and followed the present canal.

At this time the lazy winding Chippawa Creek was a substantial highway for commercial traffic. Accordingly, a wooden lock was constructed, as far as is known, between the Wooden Aqueduct and Niagara St. on the south bank of the river.

In the year 1833, the canal was extended to Port Colborne on Lake Erie. Hence, boats could avoid the risky treacherous currents of the Niagara River and shipping increased by Welland's doorstep.

Canal Collector's Office

Up to this time, there was not even a hamlet to mark the beginning of Welland. The area was very thinly settled, mostly by U.E. loyalist stock who lived a typical frontier life of hunting, fishing, trapping and farming. When the first canal was being built, people at last settled here in what was the first seed of an urban community, and the village was known as "The Aqueduct". This name was retained until 1842 when the more dignified name of "Merrittsville" was adopted. Once again, the canal left its impression.

In 1850, the wooden canal was entirely replaced by a new one of cut stone. This second canal was by now owned by the government of Upper Canada, who built it with an eye cast to possible future requirements. Its dimensions were proportioned to suit the newly built canals in the St. Lawrence River, and to allow for a future deepening of the canal from 9 to 10 feet. So substantial was the construction of the locks, weirs, etc., that they exist today very little the worse for wear except where the ever advancing hand of progress has altered or destroyed them.

Fortunately, we in Welland have one of the finest and most elaborate example of this stonemason work right on our doorstep—the aqueduct; however it has been so surrounded and built up by dredgings from the bottom of the new canal, that to most persons it is almost unrecognizable. Then, when in 1946, it was converted into the public swimming pool complete with change house and filtration plant, and when the children's wading pool was built on what was once the river bed, the disguise was complete.

For 80 years, until 1925, the aqueduct faithfully carried the waters of the canal over the Welland River, and the people of Welland were proud of this unique and distinctive landmark.

If the Aqueduct should be restored to its original configuration, we would see a cut stone channel, 45 feet wide and 316 feet long. The depth of this channel was 10 feet 8 inches to allow for future lowering of the canal water level. To support this channel, we would see four graceful arches 45 feet wide through which the river flowed.

The second canal as it ran through Welland followed a route somewhat east of the first canal. In fact a new channel was dug (from at least as far south of what is now Ontario Rd.). This channel ran approximately along the east side of the present channel as far as the Main St. bridge. From here it changed course slightly, to pass over the aqueduct and thence in front of the present water filtration plant. The second canal joined the first about 400 yards north of the aqueduct.

It can be visualized that there was then a long island situated in the centre of the present ship channel. It was quite narrow south of Main St.; however it was considerably wider between Main St. and the river. North of the river was another island which extended north from the river to the junction of the first and second canals.

There was located on the North island a cut stone lock, 26½ ft. wide by 150 ft. long, by which ships could pass from the canal down into the river to proceed up stream to various ports in the hinterland. Through the years this lock was to play an increasing part in the development of the country to the west. It stood at the south end of Lock St. and served until 1926 when it was torn down to make way for the river diversion.

Main St. crossed the south island, and because of the island, there were two Main St. bridges. The west bridge was fixed as it crossed the unused first canal. The east bridge crossed the main channel, thought to be about 30 ft. wide, and swung on the island side. It was a very modest bridge, constructed almost entirely of timbers and planks, and was wide enough for only one buggy.

By the time the second canal was completed, the village of Merrittsville had made a noble start. In 1851 there was a reported resident population of 150, while canal labourers employed on the canal swelled these numbers to nearly 350. Five enterprising industries had recognized the enonomic advantages offered by the canal as a source of water power and as a shipping centre, and as a result had located here. These were listed as being 2 grist mills, 2 sawmills and a cloth factory.

The first gristmill, "The Welland Flouring Mills", was established about 1847 by Messrs. Seeley and Dunlop. They located on the north bank of the river at a spot now marked by the Brewer's Warehouse on Riverbank Road. To obtain a supply of water to run the mill, a raceway was dug. It started near the north end of the first aqueduct, ran due west along what is now a lane between W. M. McLaren's Service Station and Welland Iron and Brass, crossed under Niagara St. and thence up to the mill.

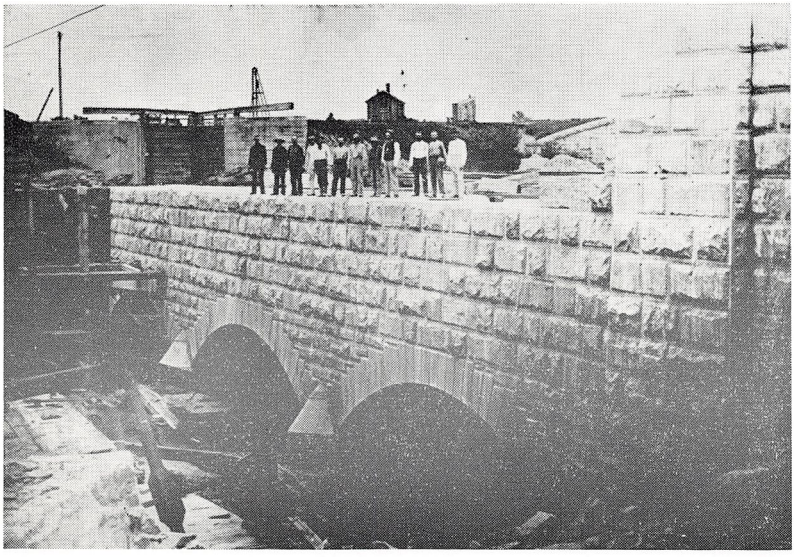
For 13 years Seeley and Dunlop did a prosperous business, until the mill burned. A new mill was erected soon afterwards by a Mr. William Thompson who later was bought out by Mr. J. A. Everingham. In 1874 the Phelps brothers took over the business. However after 3 short years, with the lowering of the canal water level, and the filling in of the first canal, their water power ceased and they were forced to use steam. Ten years later, the water raceway was dug deeper, and extended to the east to meet the new third canal near the top of the stone lock.

Next door to Seeley and Dunlop on the southwest corner of Niagara St. and Riverbank Rd., there was the Ellenwoods Woolen and Carding Mills. There is no conclusive evidence, but some authorities believe this mill was the cloth factory referred to in 1851. It was water-powered and obtained its water from the same raceway which ran just north of it.

The first sawmill in Welland was founded by Mr. Seely, a native of New York State. He located it on the north side of the river at Niagara St. on the lot now occupied by W. M. McLaren's White Rose Service Station, and as was the case of the above mentioned mills, drew water from the raceway for power purposes. Moses Betts, a city councillor, bought the mill from Seely, and in later years the business was run by O. H. Rounds, and more recently by Frank Rounds.

Many senior citizens will remember the Brown Brothers' "Aqueduct Roller Mills", as it was situated on Denistown St. on the south side of the river. From about 1850 when it was founded, this mill has had a varied and interesting history which parallels that of the city and of the canal. The founder, Mr. Moses Cook, located his mill on the north side of Main St., on the island bounded by the first and second canals. For water-power, he drew water from the first canal, immediately to the west, and deposited it into the river behind the mill.

As time passed, the business changed hands, once to Betts and Busenbark, and once again to D. Cooper. Upon the building of the third canal, the government required the land where the mill stood, and reimbursing Mr. Cooper for his loss, took possession of the property. The mill buildings and machinery were sold at public auction, August 1878, to the Brown Brothers who moved the mill to its site on Denistown St., put in steam power for lack of water, modernized the mill equipment and built a wharf so that boats could load



1888 Aqueduct

directly. About 1890, the hydraulic raceway (which will be described in a later paragraph) was extended to the mill and water was once again used for power.

As time passed Merrittsville prospered and grew, until in 1855 it was made the county seat. Soon after on July 24, 1858, the community, then with a population of over 750, was incorporated as the Municipality of the Village of Welland and it is the centennial of this date that we celebrate this year. According to later reports the year 1876 found Welland still thriving with a bustling population of 1,900 persons. It was one of the most flourishing towns in the country.

More and more industries recognized Welland's geographical and economical advantages, and established here.

The industries hired men; and these men with their families required the services of the shops, newspapers, doctors, schools, etc. The resulting growth was a natural chain reaction.

Many of these industries and businesses had a relation, direct or indirect, to the canal.

In the early days of the canal, the towing of all vessels was done by horses and it was a lucrative business to own a large stable for this purpose.

Large numbers of men were employed in cutting cordwood and timber for rafting down the welland River, and because of the lack of tow paths the rafts were poled or later towed by tugs. Much of the timber was high quality white oak which was sold to the Union Drydocks in Buffalo, N.Y. The last load of this precious commodity left this part of the country in 1908.

Business men soon saw the need for boats, and turned their talents to ship building. Two boats, "The Sovereign" and "The Isaac May" (a steam barge) were built on the west bank of the canal where Valencourt's Boiler Works are now located. The schooner "R. Morwood" was rebuilt on the north bank of the Welland River between the lock and Seely's planing mill. The hull of the steam tug "Defiance", the first steam craft to ply the Welland River, is reported to have been built in Welland sometime in the 1850's.

When the second canal was built, it was considered a bold venture with ample capacity for future expansion. Indeed it was so, but who was to predict the phenomenal economic and physical growth that actually came to pass. After only 8 years of service the navigable depth was increased to its maximum 10 feet, and as early as 1858 the government received various petitions for a still larger waterway. The largest of the upper lake vessels had grown to 1,000 tons while the canal capacity lagged at 400 tons, and further enlargement was imperative or the very purpose for which it was constructed would be defeated.

Eventually, in 1887 the third canal was completed, and again the face of Welland was altered. The channel of the second canal was widened to the west to form the new canal, and as was mentioned before caused the appropriation of D. Cooper's grist mill. The first canal was entirely filled in, making available to the town much valuable property.

The old stone lock from the canal down into the Welland River remained, and continued to serve its very important function of allowing river traffic to develop the hinterland.

The old stone aqueduct was left intact, and continued in use, but to meet the increasing shipping requirements, a new third stone aqueduct was built immediately to the west of the second. It was a magnificent structure of grey limestone, truly a piece of art, and Welland was proud of its distinctive landmark. In this modern age of steel and concrete, it was probably as ambitious an example of cut-stone masonry as we have or will ever see again on this continent. Ten years elapsed between the first letting of the contract and the completion of the work, and two contractors were engaged before the job was done.

The new third stone aqueduct was built 75 or 80 ft. west of the second. Physically, the channel was 85 ft. wide at floor level by 16 ft. deep, and was supported on 6 arches each 40 feet wide. The total overall length was 277 ft., and the overall height was 47 ft. 9 in. from the river bed to the top of the parapet walls.

By this time the water level in the canal had been lowered sufficiently that Lake Erie could supply the water required to run the locks, except occasionally when the lake level dropped too low in the dry summer months. At such times the water supply was augmented by the old feeder canal from the Grand River. However, the feeder was useful for other reasons as well. A thriving trade was still being done on the feeder and such villages as Wainfleet continued to flourish because of the backwoods commerce it encouraged.

In a rather unique way this feeder became especially valuable to Welland. An additional water channel, known locally as the hydraulic raceway, was run from the feeder in a northerly direction along the west side of the canal to the Welland River. It was dug in 1887.

Geographically, the feeder met the canal at Broadway St. and the raceway, starting from this point, ran close beside the canal until it reached the junction of Lincoln St. and Prince Charles drive. It then followed Prince Charles Drive to the river; in fact, when Prince Charles Drive was built, the best available location was square on top of the old raceway. Where the raceway ended, at the bank of

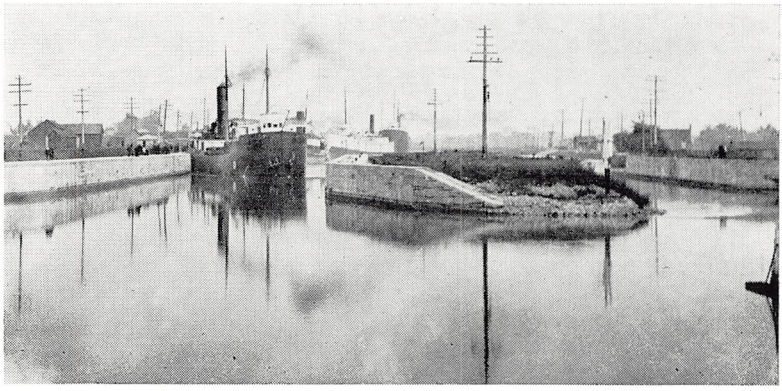
the river the water had a nominal drop of 16 ft. This could be developed into a considerable amount of power for which there were two intended uses.

The original water works was built in 1888-1889 at the end of the hydraulic raceway just east of the present Prince Charles Drive bridge. The water in the raceway was used only to drive the pumps which distributed the water through the mains. Because the water in the feeder passed through a swampy region it was considered unfit to drink, so the drinking water was obtained from the canal. The water intake stood on the canal bank at the east end of Bald St. and was conducted to the pump house through an 8 inch wooden stave pipe. The water was not filtered to modern standards, and householders often found their water muddy, discolored, and tainted with chlorine. It is said that even small fish and wigglers found their way through the system.

This old pumping station supplied the city until 1912, when the new waterworks was built on the east side of the canal near the aqueduct; nevertheless, it was maintained for emergency operation until 1920.

Just east of the old waterworks stood the Welland Electric Light Co. This enterprise was founded by Mr. Clayton Page. It generated electric power from the water in the raceway and supplied it to the consumers in Welland. This venture folded in 1906 when cheaper power became universally available from Ontario Hydro.

It will be recalled in an early paragraph that the Brown Brothers located their Aqueduct Roller Mills on the south bank of the river in 1878. They operated solely with steam power until about 1890 when the hydraulic raceway was extended a further 500 ft. east to the mill. Thus water was made available to augment their power supply.



Canal Island

In recent years progress has razed these landmarks. The Welland High School levelled the buildings and converted the area into a playing field; and, as has been mentioned previously, Prince Charles Drive changed the face of the hydraulic raceway, while at the same time effectively marking its course.

Once again the old story of obsolescence and progress was to be repeated. Even before the third canal was opened, an agitation was begun for a larger, and more ambitious canal of a 25 ft. draft that would allow the largest grain carriers of the day to proceed directly to Montreal. Thus the first vision of our modern St. Lawrence Seaway was seen.

Again Welland was to have its face changed, and this time drastically. The greatest single change was the new aqueduct. It is an inverted syphon culvert built of reinforced concrete with 6 tubes each 22 ft. in diameter to carry the river. The channel measures about 245 ft. wide by 30 ft. deep.

The 4th aqueduct was built about 500 ft. north of the old, and the river had to be diverted accordingly. Thus the river no longer flows beside the Reeta Hotel and the courthouse as it once did. The old stone lock into the river was dismantled in 1925-26, because it stood in the way of the new river bed, and so ended a long and colourful history of shipping on the river. When the new aqueduct was completed, the third stone aqueduct was also dismantled, but not without a struggle. It is said to have been so well constructed by the meticulous workmanship of another era, that the wrecking contractor was all but ruined.

Shipping was ended on the old feeder canal and parts of it were filled with dredgings from the new channel. This new channel followed the route of the three previous canals. The land which was reclaimed from the first canal was once again appropriated, and West Main St. underwent another change.

Some of our senior citizens may recall Mrs. R. Cooper and her millinery shop; Andy Rose's confectionery or Bruno's fruit store. On the bank of the old canal was the bridge shanty, where the bridge operators kept out of the weather. In those days they worked two 12-hour shifts, 6 days a week; the canal was closed on Sundays.

What of the present? We are now very little dependent upon the canal: our economy would probably carry on better without it considering the inconveniences it creates. However the canal still serves us in many less obvious ways.

Our drinking water comes from the canal and is delivered to an estimated 37,000 consumers. One of the requirements of modern industry is a large supply of water, and the canal fulfills that need. Page Hersey Tubes, Ltd., and the Electro Metallurgical Co. are two

examples and Atlas Steels Ltd. pumps 8 million gallons each day (more than the city of Welland) to cool the large industrial furnaces and mills.

What of the future? From the canal Welland now has very little to gain directly, aside from those items just mentioned. With this year's opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway many ships of foreign registry will pass through our city, but they will not stop because we have not the complete docking facilities of Toronto, Hamilton, or Port Arthur. However, Canada as a whole will gain from this commerce, and so indirectly will Welland.

Water power has almost universally been replaced by the more convenient hydro-electric power, and is rarely seen today.

Gone also are the curses of the sailors and the towboys, and gone is the sound of the passing schooners with the whistle of the wind in the rigging. Yes, many changes have taken place, and progress begets change, but the canal remains—a silent reminder of the birth of the City of Welland.

AUTHOR FOOTNOTE: Kenneth Milne is a young mechanical engineer from Montreal, who has been employed at the Atlas Steels Ltd. for the past two years.

MIDTOWN PARK ONCE UNSIGHTLY POND

Before 1910, the Merritt Park was McCarthy's Pond, a most unsightly place filled to overflowing with old bed springs, tin cans and refuse in general and rats in particular.

When W. E. Phin was awarded the contract to straighten the Canal between Quaker Road and Port Robinson, he was persuaded by James S. O'Neil, who was a Councillor and the chairman of the Board of Education, to use the earth that had to be removed to fill McCarthy's Pond. The earth was of heavy blue clay and not very suitable for the traditional Maple tree, however in 1911 the council gave Edwin Hern the contract to plant maples along the canal bank and King St. and a row of elms bordering the South side of the Park. The trees were six inches in diameter when planted and soon became large enough for shade. The mounds of clay were slowly crumbled by the frost, and worked down by cultivation and seeded to lawn.

Today there are large trees, green lawn and flowers surrounding a very beautiful fountain. . . . From the terrible McCarthy's Pond, to a thing of beauty and a joy forever.—*Mr. and Mrs A. Hern.*

From Mud and Shambles To Neat, Modern City

by Henry J. Foster

When I first came to Welland in the fall of 1926 the place looked to me neglected. In 1905 I had emigrated from my native town of Derby, England, where horse-drawn trams had just been replaced. The main thoroughfares to be traversed by the new trim-looking doubledeckers had all been repaved and the overhead trolley wires were supported by ornamental iron standards. For 20 years I had been a resident of Galt, Ontario, where, in 1915 a half-million dollar paving program had done much to add to the neatness of this Scottish-settled city where stone predominated as a building material.

With this background I looked at the rather shabby Main street of Welland, still featuring a number of frame buildings, with not a little foreboding. My mission was to transform a twice-a-week newspaper into a daily and as I walked and re-walked the unprepossessing downtown section, I could not help wondering where the business was to come from.

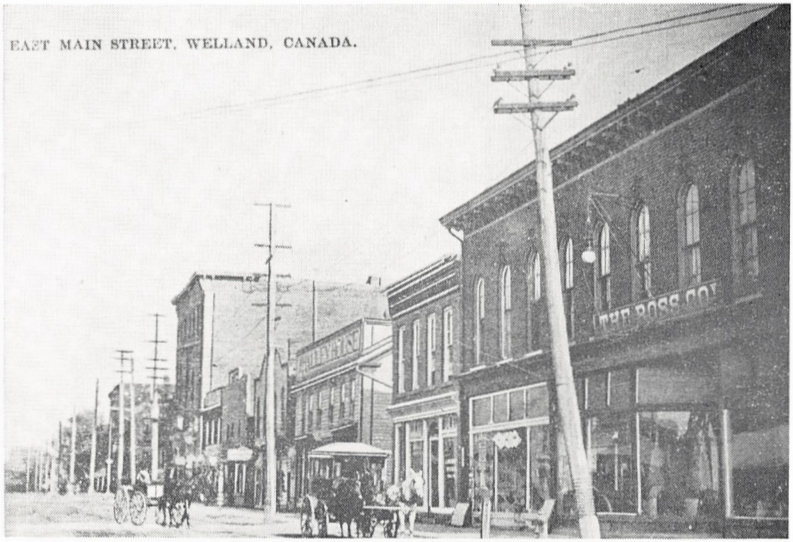
Things were made a bit more dreary because construction of the Welland Ship Canal was then in progress. As it passes through Welland, the prism for the waterway is dug out of 90 feet of clay. More than the usual amount of excavation took place here because of construction of the "aqueduct" or, more properly, the inverted siphon culvert, which allows the Welland River to pass beneath the canal.

During my first three months in Welland I was a resident at the Reeta hotel and I well remember the engineers coming into the hotel for lunch with mud clinging to their knee-high boots. Because of poorly surfaced streets, mud was a characteristic of the city in those days and canal construction made it worse. Another recollection is being lulled to sleep by the constant pounding of steel piling so that the "aqueduct" could be built.

But there were compensations for these unpleasant features a newcomer had to meet. "You may not be impressed with the appearance of Welland, but you will like its friendly people", was the reassurance given me by Arthur Wilkinson, then manager of the Royal Bank here, whom I had known in Galt.

This proved to be true. With the amiable Louis Blake Duff, who had sold his newspaper to parties I represented to introduce me, it did not take long to make firm acquaintances among the business men and other citizens.

Modern Main Street



Old Main Street

Soon I sensed a pervading optimism for the future of this community and with each succeeding year my own confidence grew. Iron and steel industries provided the sinews for success while other industries also demonstrated capacity for expansion.

A three-hundred-foot wide cement-banked waterway, spanned by imposing vertical lift bridges, replaced the muddy ditch of the former canal, and Welland looked forward with faith to the future.

There was much to do. The canal road on the east side from Welland to Port Colborne was well nigh impassable and I can recall avoiding it many times by motoring to Port Colborne by way of Cooks Mills and what is now Niedels crossing. Robert Cooper, long revered as county clerk, during a discussion as to the need for improving the canal road, remarked the only result would be that motorists would travel "at the dangerous speed of 40 miles per hour".

Which reminds me that some merchants in those days argued against good highways by saying they would only take people out of town to buy. What a contrast with today when our storekeepers welcome good roads because they make it easy for customers to travel considerable distances to what has become an important and up-to-date shopping centre.

When I first knew it, Welland was looked upon as a sort of "poor neighbor" by the people of St. Catharines, but with the opening of the Merrittville road as a paved highway, inter-city visits increased and mutual respect soon followed. Closer acquaintance perhaps encouraged Wellanders to emulate more advanced ideas of community development.

A repaved canal road (later Provincial Highway 58) to the south brought about more frequent association between Wellanders and the people of Port Colborne and what was then the village of Humberstone. The result was that by developing a broader viewpoint the prestige of Welland as the county town steadily rose as its population grew. Today the West Side road constitutes another important means of communication to the south, soon to be extended northwards as an integral part of the provincial highway system.

East Main street, centre of the shopping district, has been transformed during the past 30 years. Few buildings remain as they were, practically all having been equipped with new store fronts. A handsome addition to the county buildings lends new grace and dignity to a building that could always claim outstanding architectural qualities. The general appearance of the street is enhanced by a recently installed modern lighting system.

As Welland commences its second century of existence it can look back on a period of progress which augurs well for the future. Its strategic position on the Welland Ship canal—a vital part of the St. Lawrence Seaway—is perhaps its best assurance of greater things to come. But a rapidly developing surrounding area, of which virile and expanding Crowland township represents such as important part, will contribute in no mean measure to the Greater Welland of tomorrow.

AUTHOR FOOTNOTE: Henry J. Foster is the publisher of The Evening Tribune.

REMEMBER?

—When the Indian Head brewery operated on the canal bank? in those days there was a self service system which involved a coin in the slot. Many an honest worker was discovered asleep in the arms of John Barleycorn, his pockets empty of slugs and his belly full of good cheer. Even after the brand was taken over and killed, bottles of Indian Head ale would mysteriously appear around election time.

Gamblers All

by John R. Adams

Like the farmer, the true-blue Wellander is a gambler. He is a gambler whether native born or an immigrant. Anyone who sticks to Welland is a gambler because this city's future is, and always has been, uncertain. Even during the short time which this writer has been here, it had endured two "recessions". But, like the farmer who plants his seed once more in the spring after last fall's failure, Welland continues to plant its seeds: More new houses are built, factories are extended, shopping plazas go up and the traffic jams on Division Street become denser with each passing year.

Gamblers like Matthew Beatty, B. J. McCormick, Robert Turnbull, T. J. Dillon and W. M. German staked their fortunes on Welland. And gamblers like the famine-struck Irish of the 40's, the English and Italians of the 1900's and French Canadians of the 20's came to sweat and toil towards an uncertain future.

The industries of this city are sensitive to the slightest change in the world economy. In consequence the industrial history of Welland is largely a chronicle of booms and busts. But after each bust, the citizens have shaken groggy heads and gone back for more.

For the first fifty years of its corporate life, Welland was a pip-squeak village with never more than a couple of thousand souls in it at any one time, and often considerably less. A few sawmills, grist mills and other minuscule industries supplied the local needs. The only establishment which could be called an industry was Matthew Beatty's iron works and it wasn't much either.

When Plymouth Cordage located here through, it is said, the intercession of W. M. German, the city began to go ahead—in the industrial sense, at least.

Before we go further we must define the area we are talking about. Because in all ways except the political, the Welland-Crowland urban area is one, we shall treat it as such in describing the industries there. The two areas grew without respect for boundries and are now so completely fused that it is impossible to consider them separately. This is especially the case with the industries: they support the total community regardless of where they are located in the Greater Welland area. Accordingly, when we write Welland, we mean Greater Welland.

Like a car on a roller coaster Welland has more than once soared to a dizzy height of prosperity, paused momentarily on its lofty eminence, then bucketed down into the depths of depression. Since the turn of the century this has happened at least three times. There was the first zoom, up to the end of World War I, followed

by the deepest dive of them all. Times were so bad in the early twenties that nearly 3,000 citizens left town, never to return.

Next came the mad ascent to the fall of '29, and then the plunge into the hungry thirties. Finally the car rose steadily through the '40's up to the plateau of World War II where, except for a small dip in 1953, it has remained.

In spite of all these ups and downs, the city has continued to grow: more and more industries have been established throughout the years.

Here is a chronology: 1905—Plymouth Cordage Co.; 1907—Electrometals Co.; 1909—Page-Hersey Iron, Tube and Lead Company; 1909—Canada Foundries and Forgings; 1913—Woods Manufacturing Co.; 1913—Volta Manufacturing Co.; 1917—British American Shipbuilding Co.; 1918—Welland Iron and Brass Co.; 1920—Canadian Mead-Morrison Co. (formerly Matthew Beatty and Sons); 1924—Welland Electric Steel Foundry; 1926—Dominion Yarns; 1928—Atlas Steels; 1930—Stokes Rubber Co.; 1936—Commonwealth Electric (now Reliance Electric); 1946—"El-Mech" Tools; 1947—Switson Industries; 1956—Welland Tubes.

Some may object to our arrangement above; we make no apologies for it and explain some of the inclusions thus:

The British American Shipbuilding Company has been noted because, though long since defunct, it had the distinction of building and launching five large cargo vessels on the canal. Most of these ships are still sailing the seven seas. It occupied the yards and ships of the Matthew Beatty Company.

Atlas Steels Limited, before 1928 was a very small factory. Originally it was occupied by Frost Wire Fence, then was variously a bed stead factory, moribund, and finally Dillon Crucible Company when it was taken over by R. H. Davis who made it the giant organization it is today. We feel that 1928 is the proper date to indicate the founding of the present company.

The same reasoning applies to the Reliance Electric. Before Mr. Stinson took over the premises it had long been out of commission as a factory—in fact part of the building was occupied by a badminton club.

It is beyond the scope of this article to discuss in detail the history of each company listed above. We must confine ourselves to a few outstanding facts about some of these companies.

For instance, Plymouth Cordage was the first company in Canada to have an industrial nurse. It also set up a welfare and housing scheme which was unique at the time in this country.

The "Page" and "Hersey" in Page-Hersey refers to two Montreal industrialists, Mr. George Henry Page and Mr. Randolph Hersey who

were involved in a series of complicated mergers of steel rolling mill companies around the turn of the century. These mergers killed off the original Page-Hersey company but a certain Mr. W. W. Near resurrected the name and organized the present company at Guelph in 1902. Seven years later a branch company was established in Welland. This branch eventually became the one and only Page-Hersey Tubes, Limited.

The Dain Manufacturing Company, now John Deere, originally made lawnmowers; Woods Manufacturing Company and Dominion Yarns are the largest employers of female help in Welland; this plus the fact that they manufacture textiles brings possibly the only diversified industry to an otherwise "one crop" industrial city.

The Volta Manufacturing Company was the first firm in Canada to manufacture electric arc furnaces. In fact it was the second such firm in the western hemisphere.

During the heyday of its international operations it was not unusual for agents to leave the Atlas offices on East Main Street and emplane for far-flung places in Peru or India or Africa.

However, such instances could be multiplied; we are certain that many who read this can quote dozens of interesting facts about the remarkable industries situated in Welland. A mere listing of some of the products which pour out of the city each year gives this writer a thrill of pride, a feeling that he is living in a very exciting place.

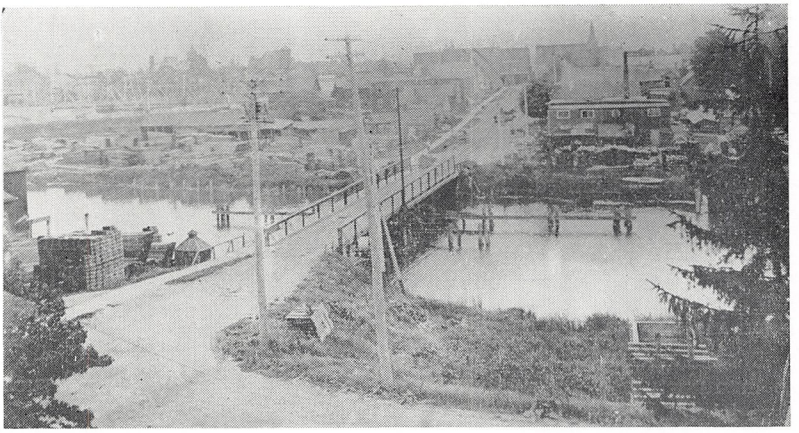
From Welland comes such diverse products as graphite rods for atomic piles, plastic battery boxes, hot air furnaces, thirty-six inch pipe, denim cloth, washing machine agitators, gigantic cranes and hoists, stainless steel castings, combined harvester-threshers, jet engine parts, nylon ropes, and in war time, gun barrels, shell forgings and bazooka guns.

So much for the organizations; what, then of the men who brought them into being?

As it is with most Canadian industries, the entrepeneurs who staked their fortunes on Welland were either British or American; in later years practically all of them were the latter. Of the working men who poured out their blood and sweat to develop this city, the British Isles and Southern Europe supplied the greater part.

Two figures stand out among the men "bold and resolute", who propelled this city upward on its industrial course. They were B. J. ("Bide") McCormick and Robert ("Bob") Turnbull.

As early as 1906 "Bide" McCormick was writing letters to the Tribune and Telegraph extolling the advantages of Welland. He ran the Welland Realty Company and coined the phrase "Watch Welland Grow" which became the slogan for those incredible days from 1907-1913 when all of Canada experienced a boom such as it has



Niagara Street, circa 1900

never seen since. In those few years over one million new Canadians entered the country; the population of Welland was tripled. Three of the four major industries began during this hectic time.

And right in the middle of the hurly burly was B. J. McCormick, persuading, cajoling, browbeating men to come to Welland, the city of the future, the possible rival of Toronto!

Colorful though "Bid" McCormick was, he must stand a rung below Robert Turnbull, possibly the most remarkable of any of the men who left their stamp on this city. He was the industrial gambler in the grand manner, an enterpriser with genius.

The Electro-Metallurgical Company, the Volta Manufacturing Company, the Reliance Electric Company—each felt the touch of Bob Turnbull in their early years, and many others in Welland and elsewhere were pushed by ubiquitous Bob: St. Catharines, Buffalo, Vancouver, Toronto, Niagara Falls, N.Y., Sault Ste. Marie—each of these places was given attention by him. In some, the plants he started failed, but he was never daunted by failure; he always came back bigger and better than ever.

His final venture was at Beaharnois, Quebec, where he started The St. Lawrence Alloys. In that French Canadian city stands a large bronze monument to this dynamic Scotsman to whom the city of Welland owes so much.

Niagara Street, 1958

A Bob Turnbull of later years was R. H. Davis, the founder of the present Atlas Steels, Ltd. Mr. Davis, an American steel man, came to Welland shortly before the 1930 depression. However, such was his versatility, his nose for industrial change, that even in the worst years Atlas continued to show a profit. This profit was plowed back over and over again into the company which is now the largest of its kind in the British Commonwealth.

So much for the entrepeneurs. We must now take a brief look at the other side of the coin, the men who did all the work.

The history of the working men in Welland, as in industrial cities anywhere, is a long chronicle of strife, of struggle for better working conditions, better wages and some measure of security. Even a cursory survey of the industrial history of this city forces on us the melancholy conclusion that human life has been little regarded.

The fourth Welland canal exacted a toll of 118 lives; accidents were common in all the plants; some of these reached the proportions of disasters, as for example, the Atlas roof collapse in 1942. At the opening of the Welland Ship Canal the Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett stated "It (the Canal) was built at great financial cost" and, as an after thought he added, "and with some loss of life" . . . further comment, we think would be superfluous.

The weapon of the worker against exploitation was, of course, the union and the strike. From the Rev. F. Sayles' monumental book, Welland Workers Make History, we have compiled a grim little chronology under the heading Strikes:

1874-1886—Canal strikes; 1899—Grand Trunk strike; 1900—Welland sidewalks strike; 1905—Cordage building; 1911—Carpenters; 1917—Electro Metals; 1918—Steel Foundry; 1919—British American Ship Building; 1919—Hydro Canal; 1919—Trolley strikes; 1919—Plumbers; 1920—Billings and Spencer, 1920—Page Hersey; 1935—Crowland relief strike; 1935—Page Hersey; 1936-37—The Cotton Mill; 1946—Electro Metals; 1946—Stokes Rubber; 1948—Canadian Seamen's Union. . . .

If Welland workers today enjoy one of the highest wage rates in Canada, it is not because of any particular philanthropy on the part of their managers, but because they have become a body of men to be reckoned with. It is sad that we become humane only under pressure.

We have dwelt at some length on the history of the industries because we feel that they are the most significant feature of this city. Without them Welland would still be a sleepy little village on the edge of a canal.

AUTHOR FOOTNOTE: John Adams is the city librarian, formerly of Saskatchewan and Niagara Falls.

The People of Welland

by I. J. Giancarlo

Welland and its surrounding township of Crowland is an excellent example of a Canadian community where the brotherhood of man is not merely an ideal but also a reality. For in this small area along the Welland canal between the two lakes of Erie and Ontario, people of many different origins have gathered together to build an expanding industrial community.

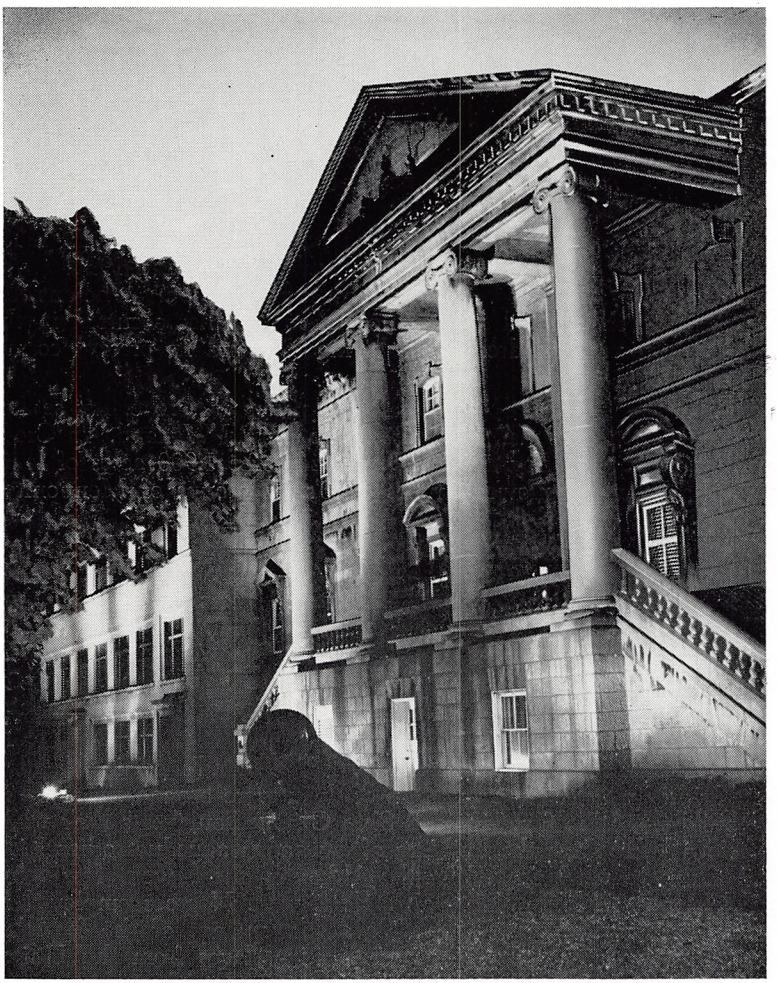
When Welland became a village on July 24, 1858, it had a population of 750. During the past century Welland has grown into a city of over 17,000 persons.

Who comprised the original 750 people of Welland in 1858? Who were the newcomers to this city between 1858 and 1958? Who are the people that form Welland's present poplulation? The answers to these questions reveal the transformation that has occurred in the city over the past hundred years, giving Welland its present cosmopolitan character.

In 1776 the United Empire Loyalists who were the first settlers in this region settled mainly on the farms around Welland. In Crowland Township the Loyalists were granted some 1,900 acres of land. The U.E.L. were followed in the 1790's by groups of Mennonites, Quakers and Tunkers who came from the United States to settle in rural areas outside the present limits of Welland city. These German-speaking people popularly known as the Pennsylvania Dutch formed the bulk of Crowland's early settlers. Among them were to be found such now familiar surnames in this areas as Zavitz, Sherk, Fretz, Neff and Hershey. Although these early settlers in this region are more important in the early history of Crowland than Welland, many of their descendants took up residence in the city of Welland in later years.

It is believed that the majority of Welland's original settlers were Irish. In 1824 large numbers of them were brought in to begin the building of the first Welland Ship Canal. Four years later when work commenced on the building of a wooden aqueduct other Irishmen came to work in Welland. Although there were few other Europeans working on this project there were Negroes employed in its construction. This was probably a consequence of the fact that Welland was a receiving center of fugitive slaves from the United States before the American Civil War.

During the "hungry forties", the years of the Irish potato famine, waves of Irish immigrants flowed into Canada. About this time, in 1842 to be exact, the wooden aqueduct in Merritsville was being replaced by one of stone and this project also attracted Irish workers to this region.



Welland County Building

One can form a fairly accurate picture of Welland's early population by examining the assessment rolls for the years of 1857 to 1885. They show that in 1881 there were 1,870 persons in Welland. Of these 1,441 had been born somewhere in Ontario and had moved into Welland. The remainder had come directly from the British Isles, the United States and Germany. There were in addition 27 persons from Quebec and a few from Nova Scotia. Strangely enough, there is on record one other person from an unidentified source, thus making it possible for any other ethnic group that seeks such a distinction to claim its representation amongst the early Wellanders.

These people were of diverse religion, the Methodists being in the majority closely followed by members of the Church of England. Represented in various numbers were also Roman Catholics, Quakers, Adventists, Tunkers, Mennonites, Lutherans and Presbyterians.

Among the prominent citizens of Welland in those years were to be found such well-known names as Bald, Fitch, Hellems, Burgar, Scholfield and Asher, all of whom have been given permanent memorials in the names of Welland's streets.

Until the 1890's Welland's population was predominantly Anglo-Saxon. An important factor in altering the character of Welland's population began with the large immigration to Canada from Europe between 1897 and 1912. It was during this period of heavy immigration that many of the non-British Europeans arrived in Welland.

In 1895 both favourable and unfavourable, flattering and unflattering reports about the newcomers, condescendingly referred to as "foreigners", appeared in the local newspapers, the Telegraph and the Tribune. A number of Italian families formed what the newspapers referred to as an "Italian colony" in the city.

The newcomers brought their languages, customs and traditions. They were viewed with favour in the plants where they proved their ability to do difficult work; they were viewed with misgivings by those who believed that they would not fit into a predominantly Anglo-Saxon society. In time they were to prove themselves as capable workers and respected citizens of Welland. Their sons and daughters were to take their places as Canadians in the industrial, professional and business affairs of Welland.

Dr. L. B. Duff who arrived in Welland in 1905 draws a graphic picture of Welland and its people at the turn of the century. He relates that there were less than 1,800 persons (5 less to be exact) in the city. Mud on the roads of Welland was axle deep and the architecture of the buildings varied. The prominent men in the town at the time were W. M. German, Dr. Schooley, Alex Griffiths, Alex Brown, Hugh Rose and Davie Ross. The leading businesses supplying the surrounding farming community were on the west side of the town. Welland was opening its only hall of learning, Central School and its principal, John Flower, came from Dunnville.

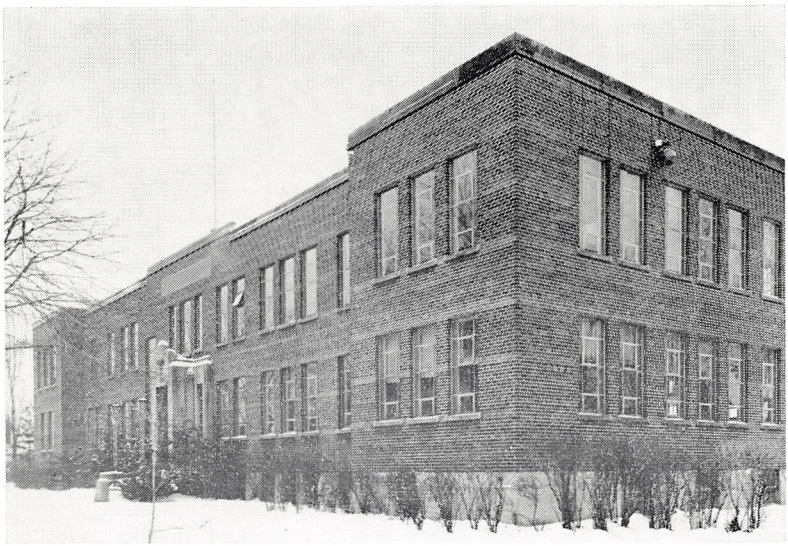
Old City Hall

With no "movie palaces" in Welland, for amusement then, plays such as "Uncle Tom's Cabin" were held above the present site of the Olympia Restaurant. Another form of recreation for the elite was provided by the Canadian Club which Dr. Duff organized to bring famous and talented persons to Welland. At this time, too, the first Y.M.C.A. was organized in Welland to provide games and entertainment.

During the first 45 years of Welland's history, though its population had fluctuated greatly, the actual permanent gain of the city was not more than 1,000 persons.

Welland's population began to expand significantly at the turn of the century when factories began production in this area. With the opening of the Plymouth Cordage Company in 1907, men began to pour into Welland to work in the new plant. Houses were constructed by the company for its workers in the first company housing projects in Canada. The establishment of other companies such as Electro-Metals, Page-Hersey, John Deere and the Empire Cotton Mills also attracted many workers and their families to Welland in the first decade of the 1900's.

This can be regarded as the period of greatest development in Welland as a city for in addition to gaining its most important and permanent industries, the population increased in the space of these 15 years as never before nor since. While in 1906 the population was 1,886, by 1913 it had risen to 6,244 and by 1918 to 9,876.



New City Hall

The First World War brought to Welland as it did to other industrial Canadian cities a period of expansion and prosperity. Many persons of various ethnic and religious backgrounds came to work in Welland's busy factories. Hungarians, Italians, Polish, Yugoslavian, Rumanians and Ukranians arrived to work in the war plants. Because of the great influx of people at this time overcrowding in houses resulted.

It was during these years for example that Welland received much of its French Canadian population. M. G. Johnson, the superintendent of the Empire Cottons, was sent to St. Gregoire de Montmorency to persuade French Canadians to come to work in Welland. The twenty or so families who came in 1915 were followed by other French Canadian families in 1919.

A year later M. L'abbé Tanquay arriving from the dioceses of St. Hyacinthe founded the first French Canadian parish in Welland known as Sacred Heart Parish. Since then the French Canadians have grown to about 6,000 in number in this area.

Welland's phenomenal growth during the early part of the 20th century came to a halt after the First War. A period of chronic unemployment caused over 1,000 persons to leave Welland, so that by 1922 Welland's population declined to 8,638.

The First War had temporarily halted immigration to Canada. The post-war immigration policies though more restricted did allow a steady stream of Europeans into Canada which reached a peak in the year 1929. During the late twenties many Europeans came to join their friends and relatives in Welland.

The times, however, were not propitious for them, since with the onset of the Great Depression of the 1930's many of the newcomers faced unemployment, hunger and strife.

When the demands of the Second World War again quickened the wheels of industry, workers were once more in demand in Welland's factories. With immigration halted, men were drawn to Welland from the rural areas of Ontario and from other provinces of Canada. More French Canadians from Quebec and Northern Ontario were attracted by the high wages in Welland's factories. It must not be assumed, however, that all newcomers to Welland came to work in plants. Though this is the case with the majority who came, the boom period opened up other jobs and opportunities and attracted persons to other occupations outside the factories.

Between the years of 1939 and 1947 Welland's population increased by about 5,000, from 11,000 people to 16,000 people. Newcomers to Welland were so numerous in these 8 years that, as in other industrial cities, a war-time housing scheme was organized to provide homes for the many workers.

Immigration from abroad did not play a part in adding to Welland's population again until after the war. Since 1949 immigration has been flowing into Canada from many European countries.

immigrants from England, Ireland, Scotland, Germany, Italy, Holland and other countries of Europe have found their way to Welland in recent years.

In 1956 quite a few refugees from the Hungarian revolt came to join the almost three and a half thousand Hungarians in this area.

A list of the nationalities represented amongst the Welland people at present reads like a list of representatives at a United Nations meeting. The people of Welland are of the following nationalities or ethnic origins: English, Irish, Scotch, Welsh, French, Hungarian, Italian, German, Polish, Ukranian, Yugoslavian, Hebrew, Russian, Bulgarian, Rumanian, Croatian, Greek, Negro, Austrian, Spanish, Syrian, Assyrian, Mexican, Finnish, Swedish, Norwegian, Chinese, Japanese, Indian, Dutch, Belgian, Serbian, Lithuanian, Estonian, Latvian, Iranian, Czecho-Slovakian and Lebanese.*

In recent years with the breaking down of national prejudices there have been many intermarriages in Welland among young men and women of these different ethnic descents. This more than any other factor tends to produce unity within a nation.

Many of the recent non-English newcomers from abroad are making sincere efforts to learn the language and customs of the Canadian people by attending night classes at Welland High and Vocational School twice weekly. The three-year course provided by the Department of Citizenship is received with enthusiasm and earnestness by the students.

In his History of Welland County A. B. Rice refers to the early immigrants to Welland as "a bold and resolute people . . . plain men and women with good sense . . . (having) contemps for sham and mere pretense". This eulogy seems equally true of the people of Welland today as it was of Welland's settlers in the early days. Welland and Crowland stand as an example of a cosmopolitan community where men and women of diverse origins have come to live in peace and harmony with one another.

Much has been done in this area in recent years to dispel outmoded prejudices which arise; distrust of people who are different from oneself. In Welland people from all parts of the world have come together to live in the spirit of respect for one's fellowman regardless of his nationality, his colour or his creed.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Special mention should be made of the Jewish community in Welland. With fifty-odd families they represent a little over 1% of the city population but contribute out of all proportion to their numbers to the business, cultural and professional life of our city. They have built a very fine Synagogue in the North Ward and have done a great deal of work towards the fostering of racial and religious tolerance. The motto of B'nai B'rith expresses their attitude: Benevolence, Brotherly Love and Harmony.

AUTHOR FOOTNOTE: I. J. Giancarlo is the principal of Maple Leaf school.

Titans on the Path As Community Grew

by Louis Blake Duff

In this centennial year my thoughts have dwelt mostly, not on what we are today, not what we have accomplished, not on the men who are today building Welland, but rather on the battalion of warriors who in the long past set the foundations upon which our history and traditions rest, the foundations upon which the present City of Welland was built.

I have been in Welland for 53 years, so I have a right to have some memories. FIFTY-THREE YEARS! Queen Victoria had just died and we had come to the end of what has been termed the Victorian era. Really great days they were, times of peace, broken only by the Crimean War and later by the fight with the Boers, and days of very great achievement. The era is now referred to slightingly as Victorian, damning it. That we have no right to do. In every way it was a better one than ours.

Marconi was hovering on the edge of the horizon, ready to introduce the age of gadgets. The clumsy automobile was just emerging. Maybe we would be better off if it had never emerged, but that is a question for the economists and the social historians.

But of the men who carried the load of Welland on their backs a half century ago! Head of the clan I would name David Ross, or "Daddy" Ross as he was irreverently but affectionately called in his later years. The Ross Block in the very centre of the city and the Ross store perpetuate his name. Both are as familiar to us as the city hall or the post office.

David Ross was skilled as a merchant but he was more skilled as a human being with a large and generous heart, a keen zest for the public good. The town council, the school board, the parks commission he watched like a hawk and gave to each the very best of the consideration and energy he had in him. By nature he was bright and vivacious; he loved human beings; he knew everyone and everyone knew him. He was in his old age filled with memories of early days. One is worth retelling: it belongs to 70 years ago. Came into his store one morning a man and wife, much disgruntled. They had driven into Welland in the early morning from St. Johns to see their son hanged. But the perfidious government of Sir John A. Macdonald had, the night before, commuted the death sentence to imprisonment for life. The parents thought that that was a low thing to do, an infringement of their rights, a wasting of their time. The late Harry Macoomb saw the culprit in Kingston Penitentiary 17 years later.

On the wall of his cell were over 6,200 chalk strokes where the incarcerated man had recorded to the day the time he had spend behind prison walls. Hangings were public then so the two sorrowing parents were not the only ones disappointed. Hangings still persist. We had one here recently but juries have begun to take a very liberal view of what constitutes murder.

David Ross was an intensely genial man, one who enjoyed people, one who enjoyed life. It is fortunate for us that a quarter of a century ago the excellent Ross School was named for him. It is a good school and should keep his name before us for many decades. His picture in oils adorns the auditorium. He had intense loyalty for his friends and for the causes he loved. Nothing could shake him from that.

Another man who well belongs to that battalion was Robert Cooper. He came to Welland as a penniless boy, but he attained considerable riches, a sum that was shaded off somewhat in the later years of his life. He began in the flour milling business and threw into it a tremendous energy. Out of this energy there blossomed the fine and very prosperous flour mill off East Main Street, that has just now been torn down. It had passed to the ownership of the Maple Leaf Milling Company and had lost its value when the latter built a mill at Port Colborne capable of grinding 9,000 barrels a day.

How Robert Cooper was able to carry on his widely varied activities, and carry them on so well, is a mystery. But he had a tremendous drive and a constant and unfailing determination to succeed in whatever he set his hand to. He took on the county clerkship and he handled the County Council as though it was his own property. He handled too the Children's Aid Society in just the way he wanted to handle it. He was in the Ontario Legislature. Welland's affairs were not neglected there. In terms on the City Council and on the Water Commission he steered his course without opposition from any one. He managed his farm, on Thorold Road, one of the best in the county, not as a gentleman farmer, but by being out there before 7 o'clock in the morning, directing the workers. Then he was back in town in time for the business day to open.

When he was generous it was with a princely generosity. Many a poor man he helped over the stile.

An old timer said to me last night, "We don't have the characters in Welland that we used to have". I believe that is true. We have no one to fill the shoes of David Ross or Robert Cooper. We are poor in that regard.

This field of yesteryear could be narrowly extended and when I write that I think of:

T. D. Cowper, County Crown Attorney.

Hon. Richard Harcourt, a lawyer with a golden voice, once Minister of Education for Ontario.

W. M. German, the most noted and able lawyer we have had, represented us for 40 years in the Federal Parliament, winning national fame by deserting the Liberal party in a bold stand when the reciprocity proposal came up in 1911.

Speaking of lawyers I have a few more worthy of note as old timers. One thinks at once of Col. L. Clark Raymond, as worthy a man as ever honoured the bar. In a gown or out of it he was always strictly a gentleman. He had the full trust of everyone. It was a characteristic of his that he was absent-minded. His mother, I think, was the most perfect lady Welland ever had. His father, Lorenzo, was the first legalite in the history of Welland county, beginning in Chippawa and moving to Welland when Welland was made the county seat at the middle of last century.

Long a resident on Merritt Street was Alex Brown, familiarly known as "Logs" Brown because of his occupation, and to distinguish him from the host of other Browns, of which there were many. He used to bring logs down the river from the vicinity of Wellandport. These rafts were floated down in the spring days. Alex was a cheery Irishman with a loud and bright greeting for everyone.

Another Irishman comes to mind here. That was Michael McAuliffe. He had a tongue that was humorous and biting. He was a good Catholic and enjoyed throwing barbs into the Methodist Church, for which he claimed to have a serious aversion, and he threw these darts mostly in the presence of John H. Crow and C. H. Reilly, both staunch Methodists. Michael had spent his life on lake and canal construction jobs and was well known throughout a wide territory.

John H. Crow was, for nearly 50 years, in the hardware business and counted the day lost when he did not get a little bet placed on a running horse, racing somewhere in Canada or the United States. He was a good businessman but handicapped a bit by a very sharp temper. He took a big part in civic affairs and that part was rather continuous.

Contemporaneous with John Crow was Billy Best and W. G. Somerville. William Best ran a butcher shop and made more money out of it than any butcher in Welland, before or since. He had a talented and very shrewd mind. He knew cattle as an open book. Able to close his shop at noon, he would take the afternoon out in the country, looking over the herds and droves.

He bought what pleased him, ordering so many cattle to be brought into town on certain days, until all were in. He was able to sell good beef, good mutton and good pork. Nowadays, I am told, a drover buys on commission. A truck takes the animal to Toronto, another cost. A sale is made, another commission. Slaughtering and dressing, another cost. The carcass is then trucked to Welland and

sold to the local butcher, still another cost. Then the meat goes out to the consumer. In Billy Best's day there were only two items of cost—the price to the farmer and the butcher's price to the people. Today, if a farmer gave his stock free to the packers, meat would still cost plenty.

W. G. Somerville moved to town from Willoughby and went on the road for Maxwell & Sons of St. Mary's, selling implements. Later he established his own business, putting up the building on Niagara Street now occupied by the Auto Mart.

W. G. Somerville had a life-long interest in horses. For a quarter of a century he had the contract for providing oats, hay and straw for the stables at Fort Erie race track. In this connection he got to know practically every horse running in America. With Harry Rice, mine host of the Welland Hotel, he bought a famous harness mare, Flora Hunter, which won renown by establishing a world's record trotting on ice. That was in Ottawa, 50 years ago. Mr. Somerville also bought, in her mature years, Lady Pawhatten, and used her for many years as a family driving horse.

I conclude this history with the name of Hugh A. Rose, father of the late Col. Hugh A. Rose, long a legal practitioner. Mr. Rose built a large store, a building now occupied by Hilder & Company, West Main and Niagara Streets. He and Richard Morwood gave the site for the present Welland County General Hospital.

No doubt in this sketch I have missed many names that should be recorded. J. F. Gross, for instance. J. M. Livingstone, for instance. Alex Griffiths, working on his father's farm in Crowland, hoeing turnips on a hot July day, jumped the fence and set off for Welland. He got in with J. R. McCallum who was a harness maker. Alex never returned to the farm. That winter Griffiths and McCallum had but one overcoat. When J. R. went out Alex stayed in, and vice-versa. Both men grew into a very considerable affluence.

Add to the list John McCaw whose descendant operates the oldest business in Welland. He was for long the secretary of the school board.

Oh, yes, and add George Wells, another boy from Willoughby. He came to Welland as a lad and worked for J. J. Sidey on the Tribune. He joined me in 1921, going into retirement before the decade ended. He did not leave Willoughby until after the Fenian Raid. He remembered as long as he lived the Willoughby farmers wearing green neckties as a placation to the Irish invaders. George retained to the end a cherubic countenance. He never looked to be more than a boy. He was a man without guile. Never in his life did he say a mean thing or harbour a mean thought.

These are some of the men who made Welland and I much honour their memories. But there was one other—John Joseph Sidey, who bought the Welland Tribune in the sixties, set it on its feet and made a prosperous paper out of it. It is said that a disgusted proprietor, rising in anger over some mishap in his publishing business, called out that he would sell out to any man who would give him five dollars. J. J. Sidey, a hand compositor, slipped out the side door quietly, borrowed five dollars from a friend on the street, and bought the business then and there.

He set out at once to make a success of it. He knew printing, printing processes and machines. He had no other love but his paper. He put into it all he had. He made it a good paper. Naturally, it enjoyed a large circulation. Mr. Sidey built along side of his newspaper one of the most successful job printing businesses of Ontario.

He was intensely appreciative of Liberal doctrines and upheld Liberalism through thick and thin.

When the Tribune could say something slightingly about the Church it never missed the opportunity. I recall the first week I was in Welland, a shade over 53 years ago. The Tribune had a small item from California. A minister left the vineyard where his duty lay, carrying off the soprano from his church choir and carrying off as well $12,000 from the church treasury. The heading on this item as it appeared in the Tribune was a line of sarcasm, "Onward, Christian Soldiers".

J. J. Sidey, as a home for his press, erected a building on the site where the Royal Bank now is, that is, directly across the road from the Dexter Hotel. To the Dexter each morning, at exactly eleven o'clock, Mr. Sidey crossed for a hooker. He never invited anyone to join him but swallowed his solitary drink and went back across the street to his office to resume the thousand crowding duties.

A quiet, shy man, few can say today that they ever heard his voice.

Let us, by all means, add to this list the name of Davy Dick, the most colorful of them all. Born in Niagara Falls, he began in the business of construction, some of his products being very large buildings. He had no money to put into his business so a daily financial crisis was the order of the day. He successfully and cleanly emerged from all this, however, and when he died at the young age of 42 he was reported to be worth well on to a million dollars. He built the fine residence on Niagara Street, now owned by Frazer Smith. He also bought a farm on the Merritt Highway, half a mile out of town. There he put up a very fine barn and excellent stabling. The stables he filled with the best horses Welland had seen, either before or after

his beginning in the fancy horse enterprise. All sorts of buggies, gigs, sleighs and fancy harness were added to the equipment. When winter came and snow was on the ground he hitched four-in-hand two of the finest teams he had, drove down town and took sleigh-riding all the youngsters of the schools—a very generous act indeed. I venture to say many of those sleigh-riders never had a sleigh-ride before, and, very likely never since.

Davy Dick was a man of generous and bountiful hand, as the school episode shows. It was shown, too, in the St. Andrews dinners he gave year after year on November 30. Once he brought an artist from Montreal to make sketches of his guests—and very excellent sketches they were. He went to far places to bring gifted and well-known speakers. In one year he aimed to bring in Sir Harry Lauder, but the Scot could not come because of a binding theatrical contract. One year Davy gave each of his guests a facsimile of the minutes of the first meeting of the first St. Andrew's Society in Scotland. In that the secretary had a painful closing note:

"It is to be regretted that so many members left and went home without paying their dinner dues".

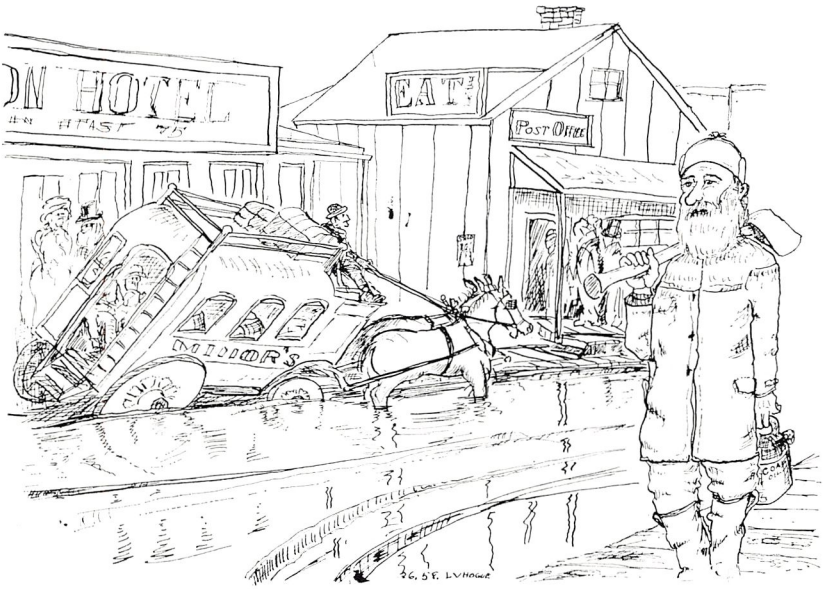
David Dick emerged from the construction business to enter the sand business, picking up a sand sucker in Detroit to begin. Soon he added another from the Maritimes, then he built an immense new boat at the Collingwood shipyards. He got work for them all for the enlargement of the canal was under way and Hydro had a great job in progress at Queenston. His St. Andrew's dinners were always decked with scores of engineers from the Hydro, from the Canal Department of Ottawa and many other cities. He also brought in from the universities of both Canada and United States their engineering staffs. We are unlikely to see the equal of Davy Dick again.

I conclude this article on "The Men Who Made Welland", with a reference to G. R. T. Sawle who, though down town every morning and closely attending to his business, is over four score years old, and a resident of Welland for 73 years. So, though a present-day business man, he is well qualified as an old-timer.

He was born in Caledonia, the son of William T. Sawle, the owner of the Caledonia Sachem. This paper William sold to his brother in 1882 and went to Brantford to edit the Daily Telegram. In 1885 he moved to Welland with his wife and family, including the young George. He had bought the Welland Telegraph. He died in Welland in 1898 and his widow sold the paper to Thomas H. Sears, who had been foreman of the printing shop. George went to St. Catharines as editor of the Star, a heavy responsibility for a youth in his early twenties. In 1902 George came back to Welland, and with Frank H. Sears, son of Thomas Sears, rented the newspaper plant from

Thomas and took over the printing and newspaper business of The Welland Telegraph. This partnership was dissolved in 1905 when George Sawle bought The Prescott Messenger. In 1909 he made a journey to Prince Rupert, B.C. There he established a pioneer paper, The Prince Rupert Optimist, now published as The Prince Rupert News. He also took an interest in papers published in Unity and North Battleford in Saskatchewan to see through the Haultain vs. Scott election. Next he established the Haileyburian in Haileybury and that done he took on the job of editor for George Mason on the Sudbury Star, a paper that was to grow to a great value and a very great success. He returned in 1917 to Welland where he has remained ever since, first as treasurer of the Ross Stores and later, until now, manager of the extensive Ross estate. An able man, a staunch friend, a good citizen, that is the verdict on the life of G. R. T. Sawle.

AUTHOR FOOTNOTE: Dr. Louis Blake Duff is Welland's grand old man; author, historian, raconteur.



Stuck Fast in Welland's Notorious Mud

Welland
Centennial Celebration
Programme

July 20th, 1958, to July 27th, 1958

"Let's Celebrate in Fifty-eight".

SUNDAY, July 20th

Church Services

Location of churches and hours of services posted at Registration Centre

MONDAY, July 21st

9:00 a.m. Bomb announcing official daily opening of Centennial Week.

Registration at Registration Centre in front of City Hall, King St. Everyone, guest or citizen, is asked to register.

2:00 p.m. Official opening of Centennial Week. Ceremonies in Merritt Park at or near the fountain. Special guest.

2:30 p.m. In the Arena, King St., the show "The Centennial Shower of Stars," a variety show with well-known talent.

8:30 p.m. In the Arena, King St., the show "The Centennial Shower of Stars". At intermission there will be a preview of the finalists for Centennial Queen Contest.

King Shows Midway in Central School grounds day and night all week. A fun Carnival for all.

TUESDAY, July 22nd

9:00 a.m. Daily opening bomb and registration of guests and citizens at Registration Centre in front of City Hall, King St.

2:00 p.m. King Shows Midway and Carnival in Central School grounds daily. Fun for all.

2:30 p.m. In the Arena, King St., the show "The Centennial Shower of Stars". A variety show with well-known artists.

2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Visiting Day at Central School. Meet your old school chums.

8:30 p.m. In the Arena, King St., the show "The Centennial Show of Stars". At intermission the Centennial Queen will be chosen and crowned by a well-known star of the sports world.

11:00 p.m. A display of aerial fireworks on west bank of the canal, adjacent to the tennis club.

WEDNESDAY, July 23rd

9:00 a.m. Daily opening bomb and registration at Registration Centre in front of City Hall, King St.

2:00 p.m. Official opening ceremonies of the new addition to the Filtration plant of Welland Water Works. Special guest.

2:00 p.m. Sporting events in Burgar Park. Softball tournament.

2:00 p.m. King Shows Midway and Carnival in Central School grounds. Day and night.

8:30 p.m. In the Arena, King St., a boxing tournament featuring contestants from the British Empire games.

6:30 p.m. The "Sport Shirt Derby" parade of visitors and citizens gaily attired in their "real gone" sport shirts. Includes children and adults with prizes for both for the most fanciful kirtles. Parade moves along downtown Main St. from the east. Visitors and citizens are requested to wear their sport shirts all day Wednesday.

10:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m. Jaycee street dancing on Cross St. with square dancing featured.

Also special band attraction on the stage.

THURSDAY, July 24th

9:00 a.m. Daily opening bomb and registration at Registration Centre, King St.

9:00 a.m. Sports and games at Burgar Park. Recreation committee.

2:00 p.m. Official turning of the first sod for the new Welland-Crowland Hospital. Special guest.

2:00 p.m. King Shows Midway and Carnival in Central School grounds. Day and night.

8:30 p.m. In the Arena, King St., a scheduled league Lacrosse game.

10:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m. Jaycee street dancing on Cross St. Watch for special stage features.

FRIDAY, July 25th

9:00 a.m. Daily opening bomb and registration at Registration Centre, King St.

9:00 a.m. And continuing throughout the day. Track and field events at Burgar Park.

10:00 a.m. In the High School gymnasium, the Niagara Frontier Federation of Stamp Clubs open their ninth annual stamp exhibition and auction. Mayor McCrae will officiate. Special world-famous displays. The exhibits will be open to the public at no charge through Saturday, July 26th. A stamp auction will take place at 8:00 p.m. in the Merritt Room of the Barclay Hotel.

8:30 p.m. On the Jaycee stage on Cross St., Barbershop Quartette singing and audience singsong. Madrigals.

10:00 p.m. Judging for the "Beard-Growing Contest" will take place on the Jaycee stage on Cross St., the winners being suitably rewarded.

9:00 p.m. The beginning of a Mardi Gras with everyone costumed in keeping with spirit of the occasion. Prizes. Madrigals.

10:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m. Jaycee street dancing. On stage, a salute to the oldest citizen.

Other stage attractions.

King Shows Midway and Carnival every day and night.

SATURDAY, July 26th

9:00 a.m. Daily opening bomb and registration at Registration Centre, King St., in front of City Hall.

2:00 p.m. Sabre jets display and the beginning of monster parade of combined bands, Firemen's marching units and floats starting at First St. school and the YMCA, proceeding down Hellems Ave. to Young St., east on Young to Burgar, down Burgar to East Main St., across the bridge, along West Main, south on Dennistoun and ending at the Fair grounds.

Golf Tournament at Lookout Point all day. All golfers welcome.

6:30 p.m. Annual banquet of N.F.F. of S.C. in Burgundy Room, Barclay Hotel. Guest speaker and awarding of prizes.

7:30 p.m. At Burgar Park. A band Tattoo featuring Preston Scout House Trumpet Band and Niagara District Trumpet Band Championship. In event of rain, in the Arena.

An aerial fireworks display following the band tattoo. West bank of the canal.

10:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m. Jaycee street dancing on Cross St. with special stage attractions.

King Shows Midway and Carnival all day and night. Fun for all.

Watch for other features and events which will be announced.

SUNDAY, July 27th

Church Services.

Save this book for Lucky Number

000481

for daily draw.

Colorful Gentlemen Of the Fourth Estate

by Tom Morrison

There have been many colourful and extraordinary types in the ranks of Welland newspapermen, but the older generation will agree that from 1917 to 1939 the community had something truly special in the journalism careers of Frank Candee Pitkin and Thomas Cooper Weatherhead. It was an exciting era when this inimitable pair were making their mark, and while Weatherhead survived his friend by 10 years, the spectacle of these two close friends at work and in convival relaxation is still vivid with a number of our senior citizens.

Although plagued by ill health, Pitkin enlivened a 13-year period with cheery and entertaining copy. Until his death in 1929, his raconteur style gave sparkling treatment to staid meetings and assemblies. His racy narrative was eagerly sought and much prized by readers of the Tribune and Telegraph.

A nurseryman at Fonthill before he turned journalist, he packed irrisistible earthiness into his writings. Yet they also breathed an erudite quality, reflecting his rapport with an appreciation of leading men of letters.

Pitkin was frail and sickly; Weatherhead, on the other hand, was as bouncy as a jack-rabbit. Tommy "belonged to Glasgow", and was Welland's staff man for the St. Catharines Standard. Pitkin's writing had the flourish; Tommy's was straight matter. Except at parties, Pitkin was almost an introvert. Weatherhead was anything but. The trencherman status of the pair around the flowing bowl intensified their association. Weatherhead frequently paid his respects at Pitkin's desk. This was to be expected because of their friendship. It might also be added that somewhere in the desk there was always a quantity of that old remedy for snakebite.

With cherubic face, twinkling eyes and a small, tilted nose, Weatherhead looked as though he had walked out of a Dickens novel. Pitkin was a suffering form behind large horn-rimmed glasses. One foot was usually in the miseries of the gout and he used a cane.

Pitkin was born in Rochester, N.Y., November 4, 1875, and educated in that city. He had family ties with Col. Nathaniel Rochester, founder of the community.

Frank came to Canada to be associated with the Brown Brothers nursery firm in Pelham, as accountant. He had been with a nursery firm in Rochester. His introduction to newspaper business came in an unusual way. A member of Welland's town council berated farmers at a council meeting during the First World War, blaming them for high prices and charging that some of them ought to be in jail.

Pitkin came to the defence with an artistic letter to the Tribune and Telegraph that became the talk of the countryside. The letter was copied, with considerable comment, by the Hamilton Spectator. Two weeks later Pitkin agreed to become associated with the Welland newspaper on a part-time basis and for three months he had charge of a page devoted to Fonthill. It became "must" reading for all the readers as it immediately let flow the style and wit with which the writer was soon to make a name for himself in a broader field.

After three months, Pitkin became a permanent member of the staff and for the years that were left to him he brightened Tribune and Telegraph pages with his facile, informed and humorous reporting. The principal events were entrusted to his care and his sympathetic and understanding treatment of his assignments brought many expressions of appreciation to his desk.

In addition to his coverage of current events, he operated an interesting column under the pen name of "Oliver Underwood". This byline he coined from the names of two typewriter firms. Then there was his own specialized treatment of the news from backfiles. These items, culled from papers of 10, 20 and 50 years back, were enlivened by his own comment and it provided the laughs in generous measure. For instance, this example:

"The literati, cognoscenti, high-browed of Port Colborne all agog, on tiptoe, alerted, thrilled, what with this item in the Telegrahp:—

" 'A shipment of the latest books is expected in the public library this week!' "

This "back files" column of Pitkin's was held by many to be the finest work of its type in the country.

Through county council and his own wide interest, Pitkin became acquainted with and the friend of practically every municipal representative in Welland county. His knowledge of affairs in all sections of the county was vast and was reflected in his recordings of the county scene.

Another department which found high favor was his miscellany column, "Shoes and Ships". This title he borrowed from his idol, O. Henry.

Inexorably, the affliction which Pitkin joked about gained the upper hand. His trips to the office became spasmodic and finally he was unable to come out at all. But he kept writing to the end, and his final column appeared in the same issue as his obituary. He died on October 30, 1929, at the age of 52, and this simple sentence in the Tribune and Telegraph obituary spoke volumes:

"He fronted every day with a smile and met the adversary of ill health with good cheer".

Weatherhead helped carry his friend to the last resting place. Another newspaperman who was a pall bearer, was William Lewis,

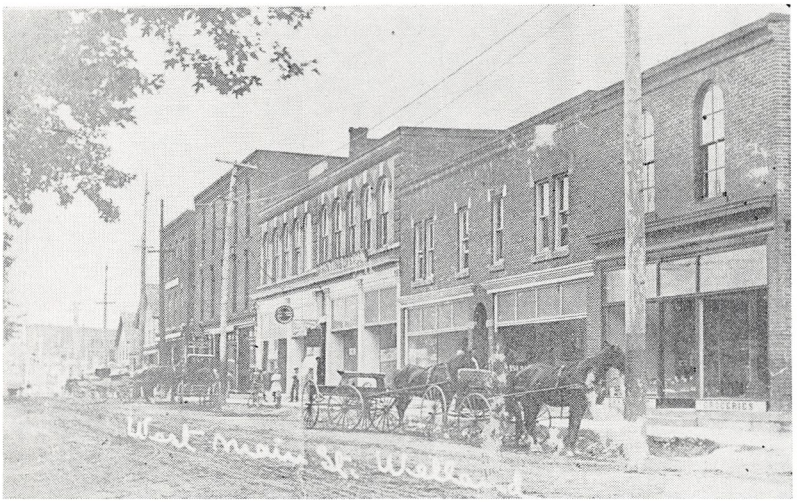
no longer with the craft, but one who deeply appreciated Pitkin's sound advice and kindly interest in a fledgling journalist.

The author's friendship with Tommy Weatherhead seemed to be one of those natural gravitation affairs. He had been a newspaperman for a dozen years before we elected to make a career out of the calling and for some years before that decision was made we had observed that Tommy seemed to be in or about most things that were going on, and with quite a flourish too.

In the 20 years he was with the St. Catharines Standard, Tommy resisted all efforts to have him give up residence in Welland. These efforts were fairly pressing after the Standard closed its bureau in Welland and Tommy became telegraph editor. Not only did Weatherhead remain adamant, but he also forged an understanding with his superiors that despite his desk duties in St. Catharines, he could continue coverage of the Welland county council. Tommy simply lived for that assignment.

The county council was dealt to this writer as an assignment almost from the start of our association with newspaper work, and Weatherhead and Morrison were in business as co-operating scribes and social companions.

That natural drawing together we mentioned could have been attributed to several things. A Belfast man was usually acceptable to Tommy, since he loved Ulster and before coming to Canada spent many summer holidays with relatives at The Moy in County Fermanagh. We were both soccer addicts and when Tommy found out



West Main Street, circa 1900

that we were extremely partisan towards Glasgow Rangers that was enough to shoot us to the top of his list. Tommy was so wrapped up in the Rangers he continued to carry a club member's card all the time he was in Canada.

Then too, ever since we had found as a boy that a bit of wadding soaked in Irish Whisky not only eased an aching dental cavity, but was not repulsive to the taste, we were unconsciously getting into the position of some further acceptance by Mr. Weatherhead. Between the noon adjournments and late afternoon relaxation periods with the council, and the goading of old-time printers as we stood with them with foot on rail not far from our old King street premises, we were quickly initiated.

It was all illegal, of course, in those days. But there was hardly a block in areas of Welland and Crowland where the stuff couldn't be found. We knew practically all of them, but except for days when the area's more lurid crimes were committed, we patronized only one or two favorite retreats. A shooting or a bombing, and there were plenty of them in the old days, with the perpetrators and circumstances most difficult to run down, was the signal for the two Tommies to follow a pat arrangement. We would explain to the respective offices that we would have to go on tour that night to ferret out information, and that there would be certain expenses.

On occasion it took all night to cover the forbidden, but popular places, but we did come up with stories which were invariably a great deal more informative than statements from the authorities.

On some of the bigger news breaks, the Toronto papers would send in what we called the "shock troops". This represented one or two experienced reporters and scads of rookies from each paper. The experienced men would look up Weatherhead and Morrison and send the rookies scouring all over the territory. There were times when parties lasted half way through the night, with the experienced men cutting capers with the two local characters and pausing only to receive reports from the rookies and keep them running down leads.

At meetings and other affairs where newspapermen were part of the scene, Weatherhead conducted himself as an unofficial master of ceremonies, and we say it in the kindliest way, because Tommy had been doing it for years and no one took offence. As the councillors gathered in their chamber, invariably late, Tommy would be the first to give the warden the signal that he had a quorum and should proceed. He would also hurry out with an appointed emissary to help procure the supplies for the noon-time libation period. When new councils assembled for the first time, Tommy would watch cat-like as fresh members made for the seats. If they sought to slip into some veteran member's chair, Tommy soon had them steered elsewhere. One day he was late and unfortunately a new reeve eased into the chair of the deputy reeve of Stamford. That worthy, power-

ful George Lundy, came in minutes later, and, without a word, yanked the unsuspecting newcomer out of the seat by the scuff of the neck, and hurled him to the back of the room.

Tommy led the sing-songs at the warden's supper. He seldom missed a soccer game and wandered up and down the touch line exchanging banter and pleasantries with the other patrons. He was chairman of sidesmen at Holy Trinity Church, a member of the executive of the Welland County Agricultural Society, secretary of the riding Conservative party, president of the Burns Club, a member of the Knights of Pythias and at one time county master for the Loyal Orange Lodge. He went overseas in the First World War with the 98th battalion and was wounded. Upon his return he gave valuable assistance in the effort that led to the establishment in Welland of the G.W.V.A., fore-runner to the Canadian Legion.

He was the life of the party and we'll hardly ever forget his antics as a female impersonator at some of our March gatherings in honor of St. Patrick.

He put in many hours at cribbage with desk sergeants in the Welland Police Station, and that's where we'd pick him up after choir practice or evensong, for our late night trek to the dispensary. At week-ends he often had his colleague on the Standard, Eddie Burgoyne, in tow. St. Catharines, you see, was arid.

There were many days when Tommy was late reaching the Standard office on his daily trips by trolley. It all depended on how luxuriant the previous evening had been. If the going had been monumental, Tommy would be delayed until the 11.00 a.m. trolley. At Thorold where he changed cars, he would first race into Tommy Flummerfelt's place for a bracer. Reaching the Standard he would stride through the office with nods and greetings for all and continue right through to the back door of the composing room and across the street into the Mansion House where further sustenance would be taken aboard. Returning to Welland each day, he would arrive either at four or five o'clock in the afternoon. A favorite taxi was always waiting to rush him to the King street retreat where a reviver was to be had against the rigors of the day.

Tommy was only 52 when he died. We were shocked, yet not altogether surprised. He had no relatives in Canada and it fell our sad duty to make the final arrangements. On a bleak wintery day, we laid him gently to rest in the Anglican Cemetery on Smith street. He loved this hallowed plot. The date was New Year's Eve, 1937, a day when ordinarily Tommy would have been in full bloom. Newspapermen and police were the chief mourners. And we went away from there to a place where toasts were raised to the memory of one who was a warm-hearted friend, an institution, and a companion and pal this writer will never forget.

AUTHOR FOOTNOTE: 'Tommy' Morrison is the editor of The Evening Tribune.

The Old, Tranquil Days Recalled to Memory

by Jimmy Kilty

Lately there has appeared a wave of nostalgic articles dealing with home towns, principally small home towns.

I read these with singular feelings, mainly because my home town was a small one.

When I look around me, I wonder how the oldtime inhabitants would act if they could see the old place today.

Life was lived a day at a time in the peaceful little town of Welland at the turn of the century.

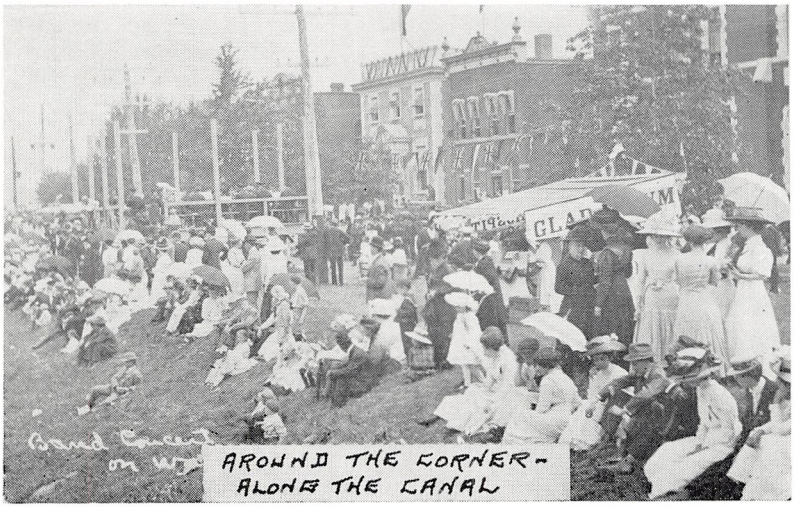
The echo of a boat's whistle in the stillness was just a signal of another ship passing through the canal.

It has outgrown the small hamlet that functioned in a world that was strange beyond the imagining of man in the late 1880's and the early nineties.

The old landmarks are fast disappearing from the scene.

What are left have been rebuilt and modernized, while many new stores have been added to the business district.

Steel plants, factories and supermarkets occupy the outside territory. New schools, churches and parks offer educational, religious and recreation facilities for the people.



Old Band, circa 1906

Today, it is a city of concrete and steel.

It stands as perhaps the best example in the Niagara Peninsula of what a great business, residential and industrial metropolis should be.

Super-structures now span the Welland Ship Canal and the Chippawa River. They are a far-cry from the days when we crossed those waterways on the rattling boards of the old wooden bridges.

Now, Wellanders travel at high speed over paved highways in luxurious vehicles.

They supplant the clumsy old wagons our grandfathers rode in, that pitched and bucked on dusty streets and muddy roads.

The people of Welland can be proud of what they have accomplished in the period just ending.

This year, 1958, they will celebrate a centennial.

"TIME!" . . . One Hundred Years Of It.

They will begin a new era with the same confidence and faith in their city's future, as the early settlers did, a century ago.

For youngsters, Welland and its surroundings was a world of fabulous exploration. Although the town was small, somehow we never lacked for something to do.

And, we didn't become a problem to our parents, except when we went swimming in the canal. Even then our parents seemed to have abiding faith in our ability to paddle our way out of dangerous waters.

At an age when today's urchins are brandishing synthetic revolvers and space guns, we were old in the knowledge of small-caliber rifles and the proper bird shot to use.

We were wise in the lore of hunting, fishing and camping.

Our limited knowledge of first aid assured us self-preservation.

Pew's Valley, (now a part of Chippewa Park) was an ideal natural playground. Aside from hunting and camping, we played baseball and lacrosse there. The valley floor was alive with wild flowers.

Burgar's Bush, a favorite place for kid's outings was another favorite rendezvous. It was a forest of maple trees, with flowers and wintergreen plants. In the springtime, the maple trees were tapped and sweet sap flowed freely into large wooden buckets.

Gaiser's farm up the river was the scene of many school picnics and athletic events for children.

Asher's Grove, probably the town's best known picnic grounds, was the scene of early-day celebrations, dances and religious camp meetings.

The Chippewa River was dotted with all kinds of small craft, canoes, rowboats and rafts. We fished from logs and piling below the

river bridge. In the pool below John Phelp's flour mill, the kids caught catfish.

George Sutherland's tug, the Nautilus, was anchored nearby.

The tug towed large rafts of logs down the river from Wellandport.

Can you picture big steam barkes, three and four-mast sailing vessels in the Chippewa River?

Well, at a date long in the past, it was not uncommon to see big boats unloading their cargoes at Bill Crow's lumber yard, near the river bridge. The boats carried lumber and coal down the Great Lakes, through the canal, and were then locked into the river.

And, did you know the old bridge would swing open for the boats to pass through?

John McGinnis, a Fourth Ward Irishman, was the bridgetender. He was also the keeper of the pound. The Irish kids of the North Ward would help Mr. McGinnis swing the bridge. In return for our good deed, he never rounded up our dogs. Sometimes—we used his pound as a riding academy. He would let us ride the stray horses and mules impounded there.

Yachting on the river and canal was a popular sport in the early days. The Beatty boys, Roy and Gene, had their own yachts.

Hugh Rose, Mac Cummings and other kids of the higher bracket also owned their own yachts. These boys in particular, showed masterly sailing ability in handling their craft, while those of us in the lower bracket, sailed our mother's wooden wash tubs with dad's white shirt for a sail. It was great sport, but a tricky and hazardous one.

Allowances were unheard of in those days. If you wanted pin-money, you earned it.

While it didn't come easy, opportunity was not entirely lacking. One ready source was gathering iron and metals. We sold it to the junk man.

A more profitable venture was rounding up whiskey flasks and bottles. We sold them to the hotel and liquor store owners.

The town was famous for its thirst emporiums. With eight hotels and two liquor stores, we had a ready market.

We sold our bottles at the back of the bar in the hotel. Of course, we had no trouble peddling our wares, because there were no laws against minors entering bars, still, the hotel owners did have an unwritten code of their own.

If we loitered too long, we were given the bum's rush.

Cutting lawns, raking leaves and shoveling snow in the winter, greatly added to our revenue.

However, the peak of our earning power was ushered in during the bicycle craze. This scribe's specialty—was teaching the elderly ladies the art of cycle riding.

One North Ward dowager paid well for her tuition and highly recommended me to other species of the breed. Traffic was heavy in the Irish part of the town, when the old ladies mounted their bicycles and went out for a spin.

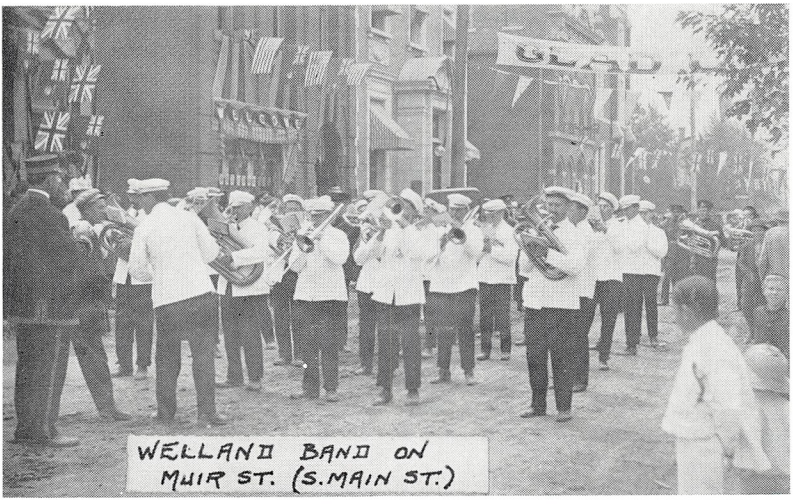
Yet, after all, there is one faithful reminder left of those wonderful boyhood days.

"The Red Brick Schoolhouse on Aqueduct street in the Fourth Ward". The Red School had the strongest influence in shaping the character and ideals of Welland youth during the latter part of the 19th Century.

It was in this same schoolhouse, we first wrestled with the value of the three R's. Our first teacher, Miss Agnes Hobin, didn't bother knocking into our young skulls an assortment of theories and philosophies.

"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you". This along with politeness, honesty, obedience, truthfulness and respect to our elders was taught by our early-day teachers, and it left an indelible impression upon us.

Of course, there were many incidents that never showed up on the score board: One instance, later in another school, one of my favorite teachers took great delight in clobbering me with a strap, or in fact, anything that was handy.



Holiday Along the Canal

The Fortner Home

"My beloved teacher constantly told me, I would never be a man like my father". Then she would proceed to knock the daylights out of me. On one occasion, I went home with a black eye. When I explained who decorated me with a shiner and that I would never be like my father, there were no Irish eyes smilling in our house.

The mystery exploded. While Mother soothed the eye, she explained: "Why I'd never be the man my father was". The teacher had at one time, had designs on Dad, and as Mother said: he did carry her books when they went to school together, but she didn't get him. The mystery was solved, but I lost a few more bouts to her after she found out I knew the secret.

The Welland Album . . . The Public Library was located over McCaw's shoe store, at the corner of East Main and Cross streets. . . . The Library, even in those early days, strove for certain cultural betterments. . . . Across the street, William John McCoppin operated the Mansion House. . . . Lola McCoppin and this writer went to school together. . . . At the rear of the Mansion House, L. V. Garner auctioned off wild horses from Montana and Wyoming. . . . They were sold to the farmers in the vicinity. . . . It was a Wild Show

in itself in watching the farmers trying to get the horses to their farms. . . . There were cows grazing in a pasture on Cross street between Main and Division streets. . . . The old Fraser House (later the Arlington) was located opposite the Mansion House.

The Court House and Jail was on the other corner. . . . Sheriff Smith, Mr. Gilchrist, Mr. Coulson and Tom Main were the officials in those days. . . . Pearl Gilchrist used to put on dramatic plays in the Court House corridor. . . . They were well attended by parents of the youth who took part in the plays. . . . Now, when I look back, there was a certain Little Theatre atmosphere about Miss Gilchrist's little group. . . . The prisoners in the Jail shovelling snow off the town's streets. . . . Gathering cigar stubs and putting them in paper bags, lowered from the jail cells up above the street. . . . The kids on their way to the Model school would fill the bags. . . . Charlie Stewart's shoe repair shop across the street from the jail. . . . When Tom Brown was Mayor of Welland. . . . The Brown Brothers, Johnny, Pat and Tom, operated the big white flour mills on the Chippewa River. . . . They also owned the City Hotel on East Main street; a liquor store and feed store. . . . When Mr. Woodsworth, his wife and son, Fred, taught the classes at the old Model school. . . . The excitement created when Dullman, Walsh and Nolan tried to blow up the Welland Canal at Thorold. . . . When the town band gave concerts on the band stand, where the bridge now stands. . . . The float that crossed the canal, a shortcut from going around by Roach's Hotel, where the bridge was then located. . . . The Opera House, (Orient Hall) where Uncle Tom's Cabin, Guy Bros. Minstrels, Ten Nights-In A Bar-Room and Stock Company Shows played during the old days. . . . When George Burgar was the Postmaster in the Pursel block. . . . Burgar's drug store across the street next to Dawdy and Adley's dry goods store. . . . The Cummings drug store on the corner of the Ross building. . . . Mrs. Hughes ran the first restaurant in Welland. . . . It was a hole-in-the-wall near the float landing. . . . When Stogy Eastman chased us kids from the canal. . . . The reason was: We didn't have any clothes on. . . . Captain Hugh Rose taking his soldiers to camp at Niagara-on-the-Lake in the summer months for training. . . . This year, "TIME" will be rolled back 100 years. Many oldtime residents will make the trek back home to help celebrate the old town's Hundred Happy Birthday.

AUTHOR FOOTNOTE: Jimmy Kilty is a famous athlete and sports writer, now living in California.

Early Libraries Shy On Education Material

by George Sawle

The origin of a public library for Welland dates back to 1825 when a small body of public spirited men formed a library company at Brown's Bridge and sold shares in it, a commercial but non-profit enterprise. In some cases shares in the company were purchased by contributing books. The few volumes in the company's possession were books on travel, history, biography, and essays on human conduct, all selected for purely cultural purposes, as a substitute for the absence and lack of neighborhood schools. The books were leased to approved members at a fee and in this sparsely settled district the circulation was naturally small.

A Mechanics' Institute was organized in Welland at the time of the town incorporation in 1858 and the books were kept in J. H. Burgar's drug store in a building on the present site of Smith's china store. Mr. Burgar was then librarian without salary. Not much progress was made in this society until 1882 when the Institute was re-organized and a library with 2,000 volumes was opened on the upper floor of the McCaw block on the corner of East Main and Cross streets. Many of the new books stocked at that time were chosen for entertainment rather than education.

There was a paid librarian who kept a free reading room, as part of the library service, open six nights a week from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Several of the papers and magazines on the reading table were supplied gratis by the publishers. The library membership fee was 50c a year and one book at a time might be borrowed on each membership, with a small fine if not returned within a specified time. The library was financed on membership fees, plus a small annual grant from the town council.

Seventy years ago fiction was the popular demand in libraries, just as it is today. Stories of adventure, highway men, caches of lost treasure and borgia type homicide were the favorites, just as mysteries, westerns and novels of violence in commercial greed and political corruption are the favorites of today, but the villians of yesteryear were unconscious gentlemen compared to the goons, the thugs and racketeers of this generation.

In the earliest libraries there was a type of censorship on books considered vulgar, blasphemous or religiously rabid, which was applied by the board or perhaps by the librarian, and there was a period when the Police Gazette, a pink sheet New York weekly paper, was denied circulation in Canada by federal authority. Naturally censored books were keenly sought after by the curious but the objectionable features would not thrill or shock a Bible student of today. Authors in recent years have seized a freedom of their own. Writers of modern fiction have a looseness and liberty of language, along with detailed description of intimate situations, which our newspapers would not dare print but which are accepted as common treatment in book composition.

In the 1880's Welland's public school was a four roomed building shaped like a Greek cross, situated at the north end of Hellems avenue, on a site now used by a chain store as a parking lot. There was a principal and three other teachers, and this quartette instructed all the youth of Welland in the three R's and a few other subjects, from the commencement age of five years up to the high school entrance class, the latter class being known as "senior fourth book".

Through the fall term, September to December, the principal, during the morning school session, taught a class of modelites (teachers in training) in the reading room of the Mechanics' Institute. His morning classes of fourth book students were taken by an assistant who was sometimes a modelite. This policy continued for many years until the modelite system was abolished and would-be teachers were trained in a special school in Toronto.

During the modelite term the principal sometimes took half a dozen of his pupils to the Mechanics' Institute as guinea pigs for the modelites to experiment on. The boys of the fourth book class who were chosen looked upon this as a great privilege for some of the girl modelites were teen-agers, very shy and rather pretty to look upon.

The public library has never been financially flush but half a century ago the funds available would not permit the board to buy the new books appearing monthly. As a result two local stationery stores opened lending libraries where popular new fiction could be borrowed at ten cents a week with a fine if not returned promptly. After a few years this scheme was abandoned as unprofitable.

While the public library of today has grown to 30,000 volumes with 5,000 registered borrowers, the reading habits of the public are still largely for entertainment.

AUTHOR FOOTNOTE: George Sawle is the author of the popular column 'Early Days in Welland', which appears in the Evening Tribune.

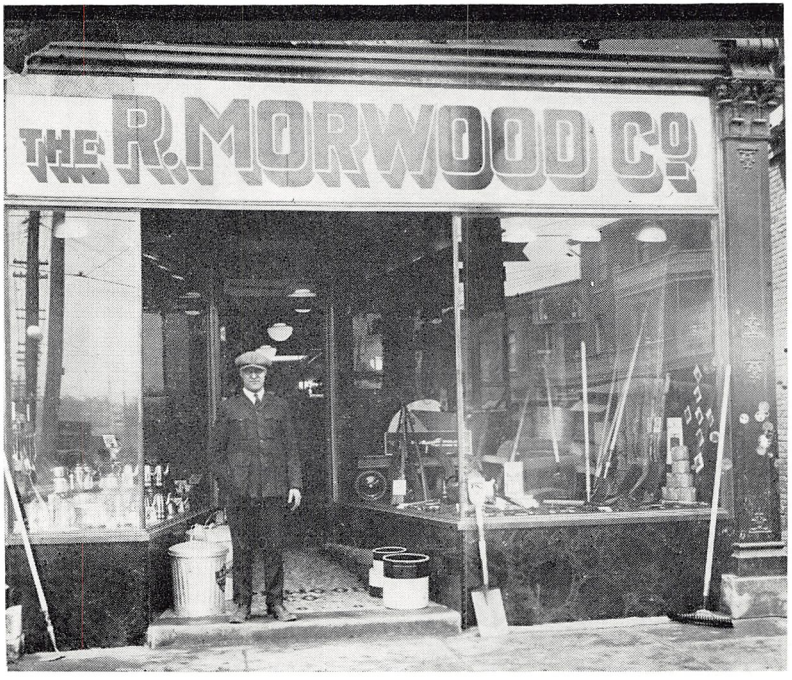
Two Old Firms Still Going Strong

With D. McCaw & Son, R. Morwood Co. is the oldest family doing business in Welland.

Coming originally from the United States, the Morwood family settled in St. Johns because of the woollen mills there. The last stones of the foundation of their house, on the Arthur Scott property, at Cooneen Cross, on a hillside facing west, were removed only a few years ago.

Two sons came to Welland to get into business. James Morwood ran a shoe store for many years. He was killed, after his retirement, when struck by a train. His only son, Halty, was for long years a well-known lawyer in Welland County, in partnership with the late W. M. German, K.C.

Richard Morwood, a brother of James, founded the well-known



R. Morwood Co.

business known as the R. Morwood Company. He built the Morwood block and occupied the whole of it with three departments—dry goods, groceries and hardware. There a very large business was conducted. Indeed it has been a mecca for a century.

Welland was a very little town in those early years but farmers' democrats, wagons and buggies were parked about the Morwood store in great numbers.

Richard Morwood, as well as running a large business, had time and energy left for a large share in the life of the town. He played a large part in the foundation and maintenance of Methodism in Welland. He gave the land on which the United Church now stands and with the late Hugh A. Rose, Sr., he donated the site on which the Welland County General Hospital was built. His business passed to his sons John, Frank and Albert.

The business, since early in the present century, has been operated by John and Arthur Morwood, grandsons of Richard.

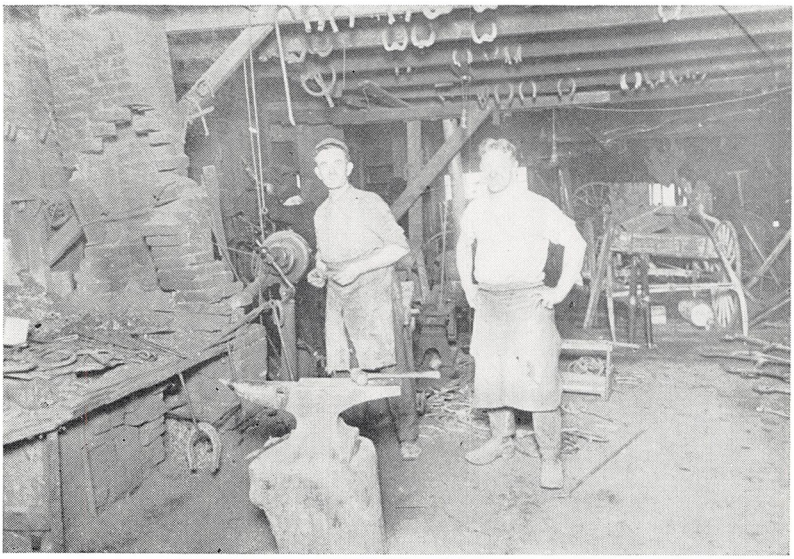
The second oldest firm in Welland is that of D. McCaw and Son

D. McCaw & Son

which was founded in 1867 by D. McCaw, who settled in Welland in 1850.

In the year of Confederation—1867—he embarked in the retail line, putting in a stock of shoes ordered principally from George Forbes, of Montreal, and Damer, King & Brown, of Toronto. Thirteen years later he took his son into partnership, and the firm became known as D. McCaw & Son, under which name it is doing a flourishing business in the aggressive industrial centre of Welland. It has had ninety-one years of honourable and progressive history, which can be reviewed with pride.

The store is still doing a flourishing business on the same old site at the corner of Cross and Main Streets.



Hogue's Shop, 1910

Churches First Came To Community After 1850

by Rev. Harvey G. Forster

The years 1852-8 were important for church life in Upper Canada. The saddle-bag preachers and frontier missionaries had completed their task. The work of consolidation was beginning. Settled parishes had to be established. Log churches were to be replaced by permanent structures. The Clergy Reserves Secularization Act of 1854 made considerable funds available to the established churches. Confederation would stimulate the interest of old land churches in the new Dominion. Many colleges were founded.

The churches were ill-prepared for the task of consolidation. Their warfare against the world, the flesh and the devil, was often directed against one another. They were hopelessly divided among themselves. Three branches of Methodists strove for supremacy. The Anglicans were the victims of a high-low church controversy. The schism which had disrupted the Church of Scotland in 1843 spread to the Presbyterians in Canada. There were many kinds of Baptists.

The village of Merrittsville, situated in the Township of Crowland, County of Welland, distant from St. Catharines 11½ miles, population about 250, was according to the 1851-2 Canada Directory without benefit of clergy. No innkeeper is listed. In Crowlandville there were four Methodist ministers also four innkeepers, one of whom was a temperance one. Anglicans were established in St. Catharines, Niagara, Thorold, Fort Erie and Chippewa. Presbyterians were in Niagara, Dunnville, Wellandport, St. Catharines and Chippewa. Methodists were in Thorold, Drummondville, Niagara, Canboro and Lyon's Creek. Baptists were in Dunnville, Fonthill, Niagara and St. Catharines.

Merrittsville became the capital of Welland County in 1855 and the corner stone was laid for the county building. In 1858 the name was changed to Welland, the population increasing to 750. In those years from 1852 to 1858, churches were established, Anglicans on Smith St., Baptists and Presbyterians on Church St., Wesleyan Methodists on East St. and Methodist Episcopal at the foot of Dennistoun.

The many peculiarities and idiosyncrasies of early church life in Welland are preserved in the individual histories of the various congregations. They may well cause a smile. Our fathers, nevertheless, had a living faith. They built on solid foundations. The home, the church, the school were integral to the new life which they were establishing. This is our heritage, we do well to remember.

Ten Parishes Testify To Roman Catholic Growth

by Father M. H. Delaney

The history of the Catholic Church in Welland dates back a little over a hundred years. It was in 1844 that the first priest came to Welland to say Mass for the people of the area. Father McDonough, a priest from St. Catharines, began to visit the area and we are told that he said Mass at Quinn's Hotel, the coloured barracks and in a school house on the Creek Road on the way to Port Robinson. Dean Gratton and Father Conway, both of St. Catharines, continued this service until 1861 when the property was purchased on Church Street by Father Wardy of Thorold who began the task of building a church. The church was opened in 1864 and was dedicated to the Japanese Martyrs. It remained a mission church of Thorold until 1871 when it became a mission of Port Colborne.

The first resident parish priest came to Welland in 1910. His name was Father Thomas Cruise, a brother of Father John Cruise who was Pastor in Port Colborne at the time. The Church of the Japanese Martyrs became a parish and the first Catholic parish in Welland. In 1914 a new site was purchased on Hellems Avenue and Griffith Street and a new basement church and rectory was built by Father Kenneth Morrow. This church was called St. Andrew's. The old church on Church Street was abandoned and finally in about 1947 it was torn down. Today only the grave stones of the early pioneers are left to mark the scene of the humble beginning of the many successful endeavours of the good Catholic people of Welland.

St. Andrew's Church added a superstructure and became St. Mary's Church. The official opening was on March 13, 1927, and today thirty-one years later it is still one of the very finest churches in all the county.

Many other churches followed after the beginning of this first parish. In 1912 St. Peter and Paul Church was built by Father Ostazewski who also purchased the property for Holy Cross Cemetery and who also was the first to be buried in the new cemetery after the cemetery on Church Street was closed. The Oblate Fathers came to the parish in 1947.

The original Sacred Heart Church for the French speaking people was opened in 1920 and it was built by Father R. Tanguay who also built the present church in 1934. The Franciscan Fathers came to the parish in 1940.

Our Lady of Hungry Church was built in 1928 for the Hungarian people of Welland. It was built by Father Hedley, O.F.M.

St. Augustine's Church was built by Father McKenna of St. Mary's Parish in 1950 and it was made into a parish in September, 1951. Father L. J. Murray was the first pastor.

St. Kevin's Parish was formed in September, 1951, and the first pastor Father M. H. Delaney used the present St. Kevin's School auditorium for mass until the present church was built and opened on July 4th, 1954.

St. Andrew's Parish was formed in December 1957. Father Botek, the first pastor, is using St. Ann's School at present until a church can be built.

The three Greek Catholic parishes of Welland and their dates of establishment are as follows: St. Michael's (Ukrainian) 1928, St. John the Baptist (Hungarian) 1950, Holy Ghost (Slovak) 1953.

A MIGHTY MAN WAS GEORGE WALTERS

Welland's strong man at one time was George Walters. George used to tend the bar in Swayze's hotel. One day a certain Coon Hokum who must have been either drunk or crazy, picked a fight with George. George vaulted over the bar and ejected Coon in a graceful arc right through the swinging doors and into the capacious muck-fllled gutter outside.

While the doors were still fluttering back and fourth George strode through them to silence Mr. Hokum, who was still mouthing profane defiance, Coon finally subsided after George had used him to scrape about 20 feet of the slush along the ditch.

Another time Alex Griffith bet George a dollar he couldn't lift a barrel of printers ink onto the dray at the depot. George accepted the challenge and asked Mr. Griffith to show his green. This he did with considerable reluctance and George placed the precious dollar with his own under a small stone on the wagon wheel.

Then, kicking aside the slanting planks, George grasped the barrel, rolled it up his thighs onto the dray and collected the two dollars from the wheel. Alex Griffith, who had a sharp reputation for thrift, turned a chagrinned green and strode off.

Sports Highlights

WELLAND SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS 1862—1958

George M. Blazetich

In a commemoration of this our Centennial year, these profiles and portraits of a gallant legion of athletes who spanned a glorious past, will without a doubt bring back fond memories. Space does not permit complete coverage of names and details of all sports activities since 1862. This capsule comment will include highlights and championship achievements only.

1862—SKATING—WILSON CHAMBERS first skated from River Bend (8 miles from Welland) at age 14 with a pair of wooden skates. He accomplished this feat annually for 70 years, later with a pair of Dutch skates 100 years old. He was featured in Ripley's Believe it or not. He passed away in 1934, age 84.

1870—CRICKET—Crack Welland team embarked on a one week tour away from home visiting Caledonia, Paris, Galt, Hamilton, and Thorold. Cricket, lacrosse and baseball were popular sports in the late 1870's and 1880's and familiar names in this era included:—J. H. Crow, J. C. Crow, D. Hoover, R. Willson, A. Buchner, W. Raymond, J. Raymond, L. Dennis, J. W. Coltson, J. McCaw, J. A. Gilchriese, F. Robert Shaw, R. Chaffey, H. Hobson, W. Crow, S. Gilchriese, Ben Secord, J. B. Doan, P. Raymer, C. Tufts, H. Sidey, F. Hellems, S. W. Secord, F. Woodworth, A. Garden, F. Adley, E. Cooper, A. Crow, T. Coulter, G. Stalker, W. J. Best, F. Sears, D. Pursel, C. Stape, F. Morwood, D. Vanderburgh, G. Wells, D. Stalker, W. Hendershot.

1875-1890—HORSE SLED RACING — In 1875 races were held on the canal between the Junction and the swing bridge and later between the Division St. and railway bridges also on the creek behind the courthouse. The ice in the canal froze as much as 10 inches as there was no current and the winters were very severe. The contestants were in the habit of racing down Main St. in a very reckless manner on their way to the course and it wasn't unusual for accidents to occur in the heart of the town. Prominent racers included, A. Griffith, J. Dowds, N. Clark, J. Gordon, J. Bradburn, W. Winslow, J. V. Strawn, W. Upper, A. Henry, B. Diffin, R. Kemp, A. Sherk, Dr. W. Hutton, W. J. Best, M. Vanderburgh, D. Reilly, D. D. Hoover, L. H. Taylor, L. H. Pursel, J. Goodwillie, R. McKinney.

1876—CURLING—The first curling in the history of Welland was held on the canal in 1876. An excerpt from an article at that time stated "The ice though smooth and keen was none too strong and the rush of a curious unmanageable crowd to the "tee" when the play grew interesting caused ominous cracking of the ice and ultimately abbreviated the game under the dictation of prudential consideration. A slight rise in the water owing to the lock adjustment at the feeder made it almost impracticable to continue. Play was also limited due to a shortage of stones". At an organization meeting Rev. W. F. Clarke and Doc Frazer were elected skips and the two following rinks were selected — the Messrs. G. Stalker, J. W. Swayze, Noble, E. R. Hellems, Wills, Dunn, M. Vanderburgh and G. Hobson, S. W. Secord, Stetson, W. Raymond, Odlam, Doc Griswold, Capt. W. Buchner . . . 1886—BASEBALL—Welland defeated Port Robinson 17-16; umpire George Wells was forced to retire after he was struck in the eye with the ball. Ladies present at this game created quite a sensation.

Athletes in this era travelled from town to town with a horse and buggy or sled in winter. On one occasion it took 4 hours for a team to come in from St. Catharines for a hockey game. In baseball it was illegal for a pitcher to throw the ball overhand. An umpire literally jeopardized his life when he officiated at a ball game. The late George Wells recalled an incident at Dunnville prior to a game he was going to umpire when a spectator approached him and asked if he had made his peace with God. Familiar names in the 1890's included: F. Morin, A. McConachie, C. Coulson, F. Doan, H. Dawdy, A. W. Harcourt, S. Woodworth, Wm. Edgar, P. Whalley, G. Peart, R. Holcombe, R. Schooley, J. Doan, E. Cohoe, W. H. Moore, G. Casper, W. Cutler, J. Rogers, G. Northcote, F. O'Brien, G. Cutler, G. Rogers, C. Morin, J. Kilty, J. Pew, D. Roach, W. McCauliff, P. Valencourt, Jas. McNiece, H. M. McCuaig, G. C. Brown, D. Milliken, S. M. Clemo, B. Buchner.

1901-1902—HOCKEY—The first Welland team to win a district championship — W. D. Ross, F. K. Dawdy, W. H. Brittin, C. W. Hagar, G. A. Peart, George Cutler, A. W. Harcourt, Ed Brasford, W. H. Moore manager. 1902—Hockey — At a hockey game in the Port Colborne Arena Welland players were roaring mad over the poor gas lighting and the low hanging girders. OLLIE BURGAR, Welland player lost his eye in a hockey game at the local arena. Team: B. WHITE, R. SCHOOLEY, P. WHALLEY, B. BUCHNER, MAC CUMMINGS, C. GILCHRIST, H. MOORE, O. BURGAR. 1902—LACROSSE—Fans from Port Colborne journeyed to Welland via two gasoline launches in the canal, owned by J. H. Stanley and Bert Parker.

1903—BASEBALL—The first shut out in the history of Welland, when Thorold was defeated 5-0. O. J. DOAN and F. MORIN, the battery.

1904—HOCKEY—PETE CHARLTON former Welland player playing for Toronto Marlboros for Stanley Cup. 1903-1906—HOCKEY notables performing: C. COULSON, C. HAGARA, P. WHALLEY, J. KILTY, WM. McAULIFFE, C. MORIN, A. ASHLEY, J. VALENCOURT, O. GILCHRIESE, F. O'BRIEN, F. KILTY, J. ROGERS, T. JONES, R. HEMMICK.

1904—BOXING—JAMES KILTY JR. wins Featherweight title of Canadian Northwest at Winnipeg.

1908—TENNIS—JOHN McCAW former Wellander captures singles tennis championship of Canada at Winnipeg against over 200 entries.

1908—LADIES' HOCKEY—Welland's first class ladies' team defeated the High School Boys 9-4 at 20th Century Rink . . . Girls, Maud Fortner, (Goal); Millie Rogers; Floss Gordon; Laura Hooker; Frances Hagar; Pearl Gilchriese; Misses Payne, Lynch, Gunn . . . Boys—for some reason or other we do not feel we should submit the names of the boys. Referee Will McAuliff.

1909—BASEBALL—Welland 1909 Semi-pro team and officials: B. BOYER, AL VARLEY, H. BEICKE, MAC McKAY, J. CLAYBUHN, N. O'HARA, G. DOBBINS, H. LINDAUER, GEO. VARLEY; manager, WM. TOYNE, C. COULSON, GEO PEART (Capt.): Officials, Police chief WILLIAMS, ED GASTON, GEO. WELLS, R. HOLCOMBE, Mayor GEO SUTHERLAND, T. McPHERSON, WM. McLAUGHLIN, S. GARDEN.

1911—BOXING—JOE ATWOOD Page-Hersey employee and prominent fighter fought JIMMY DUFFY New York state welterweight champion in Welland arena. No decision, 8 rounds, promoted by WM. EDGAR.

1913—BASEBALL—Page-Hersey team undefeated all season: J. O'HALLORAN, E. COLLEY, MAC. McKAY, H. HERPEL, manager, T. MENEK, F. SAGE, H. ELEY, J. VASBINDER, J. WARD, E. WHITE, WM. REEVES, J. KAY, W. OGG, coach.

1914—BOXING—CHRIS JAMES Page-Hersey employee won amateur Featherweight championship of Ontario, 125 lb. class at Toronto.

1918—LADIES' HOCKEY—Welland defeated Stratford 2-1, Lamberts arena, City band present—Team: May DICK, Frances HAGAR, Laura HOOKER, Stella O'BRIEN, W. G. VALLENCOURT, Clara STAPH, Fannie BEST.

1918—Magistrate GOODWIN fined 15 youngsters $2.00 each for playing ball on Sunday.

1920—BOXING—JOE ATWOOD former Welland fighter and Page-Hersey employee returns to Welland. Won Canadian Armed Forces welterweight championship 4 consecutive years 1916-1917-1918-1919. In the era 1910-1920 he fought 131 bouts, lost 16, 10 draws — won 47 of 102 victories via knockout. Returned to England in 1920 and retired from boxing at age 31. Visited Welland in 1955 after absence of 35 years and reminisced with his former mates of the 86th Machine Gun Battalion; Doug WATT, Mel DICKIE and Edw. HACKETT.

Prominent athletes in this era included Norm "Butter" BURMISTER, F. BOYD, L. HICKEY, J. HICKEY, MAC. McKAY, E. ROGERS, B. McLEOD, T. JONES, WM. DAVIS, "Impy" FOULIS, Bob MARTIN, J. HERBERTS, S. DENIS, H. STROHM, R. SCHRAM, J. GERMAN, A. HURST, G. VARLEY, S. MASON, J. SANDERSON, M. DICKIE, A. SCHLEGEL, C. R. SOMERVILLE, G. GARNER.

1922—BASEBALL—Welland Junior Beavers—Ontario finalists, defeated at Oakville in third game by Guelph 4-3 in thirteen innings. C. STALEY, R. TUFTS, R. HUNTER, C. HATCH, T. BRUNO, J. HESLOP, V. UPPER, H. SWAYZE, M. MALONEY, E. COX, C. COX, W. A. UPPER, manager F. CURTIN, secy., IKE MANN, coach, F. MALONEY, mascot. 1922—BASEBALL—Intermediate—Benefit game, Cotton Mill VS Crowland Allstars was held for ELLIS MORNINGSTAR who broke his right leg while chasing a drive to Ontario Road when he stumbled in the ditch. He is of course our present Member of Parliament in the Legislative Assembly.

1923—BASEBALL—Empire Cotton Team, one of Welland's teams of the decade. Team: L. UPPER, P. DEGRAW, ED DENNIS, F. ELLSWORTH, R. HATTER, G. GARNER, P. BRASFORD, TOM JONES, manager; J. GARNER, MAC McKAY, E. ASSELIN, D. KIRK, Executive; E. Harrington, J. J. SULLIVAN, secy; W. LEWIS, N. WHYBRA, R. ROZELL, B. WATSON, H. SLAYTON, ELMER SULLIVAN, mascot. This team eliminated Port Robinson, Caledonia, Campbellville, Guelph but lost to Peterborough in the finals.

1927—WRESTLING—JACK HONSBERGER won Intercollegiate, 158 lbs. championship of Canada at McGill University as a member of the Queens team.

1929—CRICKET—HERB. J. LEE scores a century for the first time in the history of the Welland Club playing against the Buffalo Frontiers. He holds the best bowling record of the club, 9 wickets for 8 runs. Club record was also shattered, registering 201 for 3 wickets.

1929-30—LAWN BOWLING—W. H. MOORE and JOHN COOPER were selected to bowl for a Canadian All Star team on a tour of Australia and New Zealand.

The following are a few of the more prominent athletes performing between 1920 and 1930: VINCE UPPER, E. A. COX, F. ELLSWORTH, MAC McKAY, CY. COX, T. BRUNO, P. BRUNO, A. RICE, A. CROWE, LES LAMBERT, AL YARNELL, H. J. LEE, G. SHUPE, B. TICE, C. TUFTS, G. BLAZETICH, J. CONNELLY, R. MARTIN, R. BROOKSON, G. GARNER.

1930-31—BASEBALL—AL YARNELL former local pitcher makes good with Toronto St. Georges Senior Ball club and is eventually signed to a professional contract with Toronto Maple Leafs.

1934—BASEBALL—GLEN SHUPE hurls 7 inning no hit, no run game at Thorold winning 5-0. DAN FARNSWORTH catching.

1935—BASEBALL—BARNEY BURKE hurls 7 inning no hit, no run game at Thorold winning 1-0. His first game in Intermediate company. STEW KIRK drove in the winning run. Dutch GADSBY (deceased) and Tom BRUNO caught.

1936—O.R.F.U. JUNIOR RUGBY—Welland Clippers—The first team to win the district title and reach Ontario finals. Team: L. BORGATTI, G. GREEN, J. STOKES, WM. ANDERSON, D. SMITH, J. BROWN, F. COOPER, W. BROWN, H. PAROSCHY, S. BRLEK, J. OLTEAN, W. DOLISHNEY, R. LEE, A. RAMSTEN, E. DIGGLE, T. JAMIESON, JAS. MARTIN, J. ROSNUK, B. TRIANO, D. HEWETT, S. GOLDEWSKI; coach J. R. "PETE" GOODWILLIE, ass't. H. A. "ART" SNELLING.

1937—BASKETBALL—JUNIOR C.O.S.S.A.—Welland High School won first title and completed 5 years without a defeat in district competition. Team: N. LUCAS, G. LATINOVICH, F. TROTZ, V. DEMARK, D. SAGE, L. RICE, N. COOPER, S. DOLISHNEY; coach MEL BLAKE.

1939—BASEBALL—Horace A. Fifield Trophy. The Welland Civic Athletic Commission after careful consideration selected Mike Blazetich, 17 year old Juvenile pitcher who comes from one of the most prominent baseball families in the district as the first recipient of the Horace A. Fifield Memorial Trophy in recognition of his sporting ability. Mayor T. HARRY LEWIS made the presentation.

1940—BASEBALL—FRED ELLSWORTH'S Wurbagool Juveniles won and lost the first Provincial baseball championship ever brought to Welland. The history making surge of this team is a glorious page in Welland baseball annals. The team won 25 straight games. In capturing their third Niagara District title the club won 16 straight games. St. Catharines Crystals, Niagara Falls St. Annes, Hamilton Taxis, and Toronto Lizzies were all eliminated in the play-offs. They made it 25 straight by walloping Guelph Leaflets 10-0 in the first game of the finals in Welland. The Guelph team defied the O.B.A. and refused to show up for the second game in Guelph and the provincial title was awarded to Welland by default. Later Welland agreed to re-open the series and in the next game were defeated in Guelph by the score of 4 to 1 for their first loss in 1940. The third and final game was played at Welland was defeated 12-4. The team: K. SWAYZE, of; M. BLAZETICH, p; G. DAVIDSON, of, (deceased); WM. SHERK, c; R. ALLEN, of; F. WRIGHT, 2b; RED VALEN COURT, 1b; A. THOMAS, of; A. BILLYARD, of; WM COONEY, of; F. TROTTER, ss; R. HANSON, p; J. LABNOCK, 3b; S. TALOSI, of. Coach—Fred Ellsworth—Bat boys—Howard and Art Ellsworth.

1940—BASKETBALL—Senior Church—Ontario and Eastern Canadian Champions. FERN SAYLES Welland Maple Leaf Mission. The first sports organization to win inter-provincial honours defeating Montreal for the title. Team: J. HORVATH, G. LATINOVICH, M. LATINOVICH, J. GOSS (deceased), F. BLASCIK, P. TOKAR (deceased), G. MENICANIN, V. DEMARK. 1940—BASKETBALL—Ontario Church Intermediate "B" Champions. Joe Miller's Welland St. Mary's Club. Team: P. ATAMANYK, W. VARGA, N. LUCAS, J. MICHILENE, A. PATAKFALVI, J. KOZLOWSKI, B. BASSI, S. DOLISHNEY, S. GODLEWSKI.

1942—BASKETBALL—Church Intermediate "A" Ontario Champions. JOE MILLER'S King Street Mission Mic Macs defeated Hamilton Ascension Cotas by default. P. ATAMANYK, J. MACKO, J. GODLEWSKI, A. PATAKFALVI, J. OLDAL, J. BARKOVICH, L. LASOVICH, M. MITRUK, W. VARGA, S. GODLEWSKI, REV. DR. H. G. FORSTER, J. MILLER, mascot.

1942—BASEBALL—Welland Combines — Ontario Senior Baseball Champ-

ions. The first Ontario title in baseball ever brought to Welland. Team: J. GOSS, E. COWIE, V. GOBERIS, WM. BUNTROCK, M. COMY, D. WALLACE, H. BRADDEN, D. GALLINGER, E. KRAUSAUSKAS, B. WALSH, C. PICKARD, E. RUNGE, capt; F. TROTTER, U. CONCESSI, M. LATINOVICH, RAY UPPER, mascot; VINCE UPPER, manager; GORD HILL, president; J. P. DAWDY, secy; Executive E. VANDERLIP, C. F. COLTMAN, B. MOFFAT.

1942—GOLF—Stanley "DOOLEY" HORNE, Fonthill and former local student, P.G.A. Champion won Millar trophy and eastern professional title. The Ilesmere Montreal golf pro was the first one outside of Ontario to ever win this trophy.

1945—WELLAND-CROWLAND ARENA—Mayor T. HARRY LEWIS handed VIC KAFUN, 18 year old captain of the Welland Falcons Juvenile hockey club the shovel with which the young player turned the first sod on the site of the new Welland and Crowland Arena.

1945—HAROLD G. "TOUCH" WOODS Memorial Trophy—Awarded to VINCE UPPER "The Grand Old Competitor" of Niagara Baseball and Hockey at the perennial age of 40. Starred for 25 years with Welland, Bridgeburg and Port Colborne teams. One of the most feared left handed batters in the district and a mainstay of the Port Colborne Hockey Club in O.H.A. play.

1945—BASEBALL—DAN PATAKFALVI youthful southpaw signs professional contract to play in Brooklyn chain. Olean and Cambridge in Eastern Shore League. He returned to play for Welland in 1947.

1945—HOCKEY—Welland Falcons Juvenile "B" O.M.H.A. champions eliminated Port Dover, Oakville, Elora, and Lucknow with their famous Albert, George and Bill Chin, Chinese forward line. In the second game which the Falcons lost 5-4 to Lucknow the Chin brothers scored all 5 goals. The Falcons defeated Port Hope Trinity College in the finals to win the Ontario title. Team: J. DOYLE, V. KAFUN, R. BEATTY, T. ANDERSON, A. BARKER, C. HOLMES (deceased), J. ROSETTE, A. KING, R. HOWICK, T. BELL, J. MONTANER, R. ORT, F. ONDA, H. CUDNEY coach, L. JOHNSON coach, GORD GROGAN manager.

1945—GIRLS BASKETBALL—Welland High School wins Senior and Junior Girls COSSA titles the same night, first time in the history of the school teams: SENIOR—D. CLARKE, D. SHEPHERD, W. BEAMER, J. SIMPSON, A. ARMBRUSTER, C. ORVINE, C. STREET, F. BATTLE. JUNIOR—J. BARTKIW, M. MERILOVICH, P. NEW, M. ARMBRUSTER, M. BLASCIK, I. DOWDING capt., C. MCKENZIE, I. TULK, J. CULLEN.

1946—SOCCER—HAROLD G. "TOUCH" WOODS Memorial Trophy awarded to JIMMY CONNELLY. One of the best known soccer players along both sides of the border. Several years ago while playing for Welland he potted 7 goals against the Hungarian Club in a league game which still stands as a record.

1947—BASEBALL—Welland Bluebirds—Ontario Midget champions, defeated Ottawa in finals. Team: L. MATEKA, L. CUNNINGHAM, H. ELLSWORTH, S. ROSCHUK, R. LAROUCHE, J. DALLAS, C. MURDOCK, F. SOOS, R. STEERS, J. BENKO, C. ZARAFONITIS, R. RIVET, WM. SALTER, mascots TOM JONES, ED MATEKA, coach GORD GROGAN, ass't LLOYD JOHNSTON.

1947-48—CRICKET—Welland team won Hamilton and District championship for the first time in 1947 and repeated in 1948. Team: J. SUTHERLAND, G. BARKER, G. HATTON, C. LYON, WM. JACKMAN, P. BARNES, W. MOLE, J. BANNISTER, J. JACKMAN, L. DEXTER, S. DILTS, H. NEAL president, G. POWELL, JAS. FARRAR, J. MOLE, G. RILEY, D. JAMIE, JOHN FARRAR, J. D. WATT, D. BOYD, A. JACKSON, T. POTTER, J. ECCLES, D. CRONE, J. SUMMERSIDES, G. THOMAS, T. SHIELS.

DEC. 1947—HOCKEY—The first hockey game played in the new Welland-Crowland Arena and the players who participated. Crowland Firemen defeated Welland Lions 2-1 in a Juvenile game. CROWLAND team: W. HLYWKA, B. BRUCE, J. REALE, R. MORO, W. PERCHALUK, O. BRUCE, C. MICHENER, J. TURKOVICH, J. FANER, J. COLANGELO, J. SHADY, J. BENKO, Z. ZECHINNI, A. ANGYAL. WELLAND LIONS team: S. SPARKS, H. SPARKS, R. SWALLOW, S. MORRIS, G. GORHAM (deceased), C. O'NEIL, H. HOPKINS, D. BOOKER, D. NAPPER, R. NAPPER, J. WALKER, D. COLLEY, H. NAPPER.

1948—Welland-Crowland arena official opening of $250,000 structure Jan. 26—St. Michaels vs. St. Kitts Teepees playing. Campaign to build under way in 1943—construction began 1945—R. H. Davis presented deed to property from Atlas Steels Ltd. and cheque for $15,000—Ted Lambert temporary manager until first arena manager was appointed, H. W. J. "Barney" Barnett of Cornwall. Operating Board E. L. Deitch Chairman, T. H. Lewis, M.L.A., E. A. Cox, Alderman A. J. Blair, N. J. Penwarden, M. L. Dick, Brit Phillips, Ellis Morningstar, P. J. Santone, W. P. "Bill" Marshall, Secy-Treas, D. W. Lathrop Building Committee Chairman.

1947—BASEBALL—Welland Stokes—Mario "Smoky" COMY climbed into the charmed circle by hurling the first no hit, no run game in Burgar Park against Niagara Falls Fiores winning 3-0. His battery mate was BILL SHERK. 31 men faced him. This shut out also boosted COMY'S scoreless innings to 28 in his last 3 starts. He previously blanked the Fiores 7-0, and hurled a 10 inning scoreless game against the Kimberly-Clark team. He only allowed 5 hits in the 3 games. 1947—BASEBALL—Welland Stokes—DAN PATAKFALVI hurls no hit no run game against Niagara Falls Houcks winning 1-0. He faced only 29 men. ALEC BILLYARD'S single scored BOB MILENCOFF with the only run of the game. BILL SHERK was his catcher and this was the second no hitter he caught within two months. Game was played under the lights at Niagara Falls.

1948—LADIES' SOFTBALL—Ontario Champions Cordagettes Intermediate "B" defeated Brantford Maroons. Team: M. GARDNER, H. HOCKINGS, E. PILLSWORTH, B. BOYER, M. WILKINSON, G. RUBEL, O. PLOSS, P. NEW, M. MARCOV, L. BENNER, V. KOUCAR, B. MCLEOD, W. BEAMER, WM. WRAY coach, ANDY COOK manager.

1948—BASEBALL—WM. "BILL" BUNTROCK hurler for the local senior club and playing 3rd base when Welland pulverized Lewiston, N.Y. 18-1. Clouted 3 consecutive homeruns and a two base hit driving in 8 runs. DAN PATAKFALVI pitched for Welland. This was the most ferocious display of individual batting power ever witnessed in Welland and district. 1948-1949—BOWLING—CARLO COLUSSO (deceased 1958) of the St. Mary's Club bowled the first and only perfect 5 pin game, 450, in the history of Welland at the Bowling Academy operated by ROY MCMASTER and GEO. MILLER. His feat was officially recognized by the Brunswick-Balke Callendar Co.

1949—CURLING—Unofficial opening of the club March 11, 1949. O. J. THORPE threw the first stone to mark the opening. Official opening Monday, April 4, 1949. Dr. S. T. WHITE of Orangeville, President of the Ontario Curling Association delivered the first stone after the Banana Belt Bonspiel.

1949—BASEBALL—Welland Stokes Ontario Senior Champions for the third time in 7 years. Team—Wm. Sherk, F. Chase, J. Labnock, S. Rogala, G. Slinn, Wm. Kowalski, L. Cunningham, A. Cummins, G. Johengen, Wm. Buntrock, D. Wallace, F. Troter, D. Patakfalvi, A. Billyard, R. Larouche, R. Milencoff, Bat boys L. Hamilton, T. Jones, R. Morabito . . .

1949—BASEBALL—Fred Ellsworths Wurbagoal Ontario Juvenile "A"

Champions defeated Toronto Webbers 7-6 in 10 innings at the Queen City in the final game. The second O.B.A. championship for Welland in 1949. This same group had played together for several years and previously won the Bantam title in 1945 and the Midget crown in 1947. Team —B. Salter, C. Murdock, L. Cuningham, R. Asselin, D. Jones, C. Zarafonaitis, H. Ellsworth, R. Larouche, E. Mateka, L. Mateka, J. Dallas, Capt. M. Smalyga, S. Roschuk, Fred Ellsworth Coach, H. Mitchell Mgr., Mascot F. Ellsworth Jr. . . . 1951—BASEBALL—Frank Buzash became the third pitcher within 4 years to hurl a perfect no hit, no run game as Welland Stokes defeated St. Catharines Stags 1-0. His catcher Bob Riedell was walked forcing J. Labnock in with the only run of the game in the 6th inning.

1952—JIMMY KILTY former Welland boy, hockey player, and boxer, of the early 1900's was honoured with the presentation of a certificate signed by President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Vice President Richard Nixon for noteworthy endeavours as a member of the Sports Committee. He was a noted sports columnist in California and still contributes articles to the Veteran Boxer Magazine and the local Welland paper.

1953—HIGH SCHOOL RUGBY—Welland High School won its first Senior Cossa title defeating Peterborough 17-7 at Peterborough. Coach—FRED MCKENNA. Team: F. KATCH, G. NIGH, D. MOSHENKO, M. KORMOS, J. FISHER, A. BARILLA, F. ELLSWORTH, E. UNYI, E. LEARN, E. WICKENDEN, F. MATYOK, M. LEE, J. ADAMS, W. ANDERSON, D. DAVIES, L. KREAMER, M. HUGHES, A. MCMASTER, P. REILLY, B. GRAIG, E. RUSSELL, S. CAMPBELL, T. GOODWIN, W. PERENCHUK.

1954—RUGBY—Welland High School repeated and defeated Peterborough at Welland 30-6 and at the same time Notre Dame College won its initial Senior "B" COSSA title defeating Belleville Albert College 6-5. It is believed that this is the first time both titles have been captured by one centre. 1954—NOTRE DAME COLLEGE Team: D. COTE, J. HACKETT, E. O'SHEA, D. ANDERSON, G. D'ANTONIO, D. TALLON, S. SULLIVAN, J. RISK, B. OSBORNE, J. DIFFIH, T. MITROFF, S. JAKUS, G. BEAULIEU, L. CUTAIA, R. JUNEAU, L. LUKA, E. IMRE, F. SHEENAN, S. KERKO, T. FARRELL, B. BEAUIEU, R. WEIGAND, L. PENNACHETTI, A. SWAZAS, B. PARKINS, G. GIRENTI, L. ZIMMER, FATHER BATES coach, T. MAHER ass't. coach.

1953—GOLF—ANN SHARP of Lookout Point won the 38th Ontario Ladies Golf Championship at Toronto defeating Mrs. M. H. Currer of Toronto St. Georges 7-5. This was her 7th attempt for the crown, twice before she had reached the semi-finals and once the finals.

1954—Fred Ellsworth Sr., one of Welland's most prominent athletes passed away Jan. 14, 1954 in his 53rd year. A great competitor, a hard loser, fiery temperament, a most successful minor league coach especially in the Wurbagool organization. From 1918 to the late 1930's an outstanding Junior, Intermediate and Senior performer with baseball and hockey clubs. Championship titles evaded him on at least 5 occasions but his ambition was realized in 1949 when his Wurbagool Juvenile Baseball Club won the Ontario title. Sportsmen and especially youngsters present at his funeral reflected the popularity of this well-known athlete and coach, and his name will live forever in the history of Welland as an emancipator of minor sports organizations. Others very prominent in devoting time and energy to promoting minor sports include Police Chief H. Jones, Police Chief G. T. Crowe, Rev. H. G. Forster, Rev. F. Sayles, Chas. Anderson, W. Uteck, Father J. Cassin, G. Grogan, G. Sykes, J. Kay, P. Atamanyk, D. Farnsworth, E. Turonski, G. Kodatsky, C. Longfellow, H. B. Reid, Jas. Nicholls.

1955-56—HOCKEY—JUVENILE "A" O.M.H.A. Welland Lions, defeated by Collingwood 9-4 in the final game at Collingwood. This series went ten games and took 36 days to complete and was recorded as the most gruelling struggle for a title in minor hockey. The final game was played on April 14, 1956. Team: F. BOURQUE, J. KISEL, J. LEVAY, W. WORONCHUK, R. ASSELIN, G. STEC, S. KIANKA, R. RYAN, D. MILENCOFF, R. RIVETT, R. HRYSKO, G. REEVES, B. CALLAGHAN, R. TURONSKI, V. MONTANER, J. IVAN, C. LONGFELLOW, manager; E. MATEKA, coach; DOC BRAUWEILER, trainer; (H. DEMERS, L. CIBIK, equipment); J. WHITE, stick boy; L. VARGA, statistician.

1957—FIGURE SKATING—JO ANN DAWDY Welland's most talented figure skating champion who has appeared on many local and district ice shows, signed to appear professionally with Shipstads and Johnson Ice Follies touring the continent.

1958—CURLING—Welland High School Rink wins Ontario Schoolboy Crown and represents Welland at Charlottetown, P.E.I. in Dominion Schoolboy Curling Championship. Finished 3rd in Canada. Team: BOB DOLISHNEY, lead; GEO. MORRISSEY, second; LAURIE STIBBARDS, vice; GORD STIBBARDS, skip; ARCHIE MOFFAT, coach.

1958—LACROSSE—The famous St. Catharines Athletics will be playing their lacrosse in Welland for the Centennial year. Will be known as the Welland-Crowland SWITSONS — Executive—T. C. WALKER, (F. CONRADI, manager), J. LOMORE, R. ORMSTON, T. H. BROOKE, M. F. HATCH, H. L. CUDNEY.

SWIMMING—Prominent swimmers in the late 20's included: C. ANDERSON, J. DAVIS, A. BAYNE, B. LAKATOS, H. HERON, A. M. FITZGERALD, T. NEAL, C. NEAL and the fair ladies RUTH CARMICHAEL, JOSEPHINE NEAL, JESSIE ANDERSON, MARY CRYER. Miss JOSEPHINE NEAL was presented a silver medal in 1927 by GEORGE YOUNG the Catalina Kid at the Capitol Theatre. JOSEPH SYKES (killed in action—1944) without a doubt was Welland's most outstanding swimmer in the history of local sport. He had won over 24 trophies and medals and many special races. GORDON SYKES his brother who is a good swimmer in his own right and a coach for many years has the following champions under his wing: JOHN DUDAS, CLARENCE SHOOK, IAN GRAY, JOHN REID, DOUG REID, ELMA BECKETT and BEVERLEY GARDNER. Other prominent swimmers include: J. LEISHMAN, D. DOAN, H. BRETTELL, P. KRUSELL, J. OLTEAN (deceased), R. FOWLER, L. HARRISON, D. CROUCHLY, HELEN SPARKS, MABEL LANGLEY, PHYLISS HOPKINS, NORMA HOPKINS, R. FOX, L. COLLEY, JACK MILLER (deceased), M. POWELL, P. BALL, R. BALL, MAUREEN FOX, JOAN MILLER, JOYCE BROWN, GEORGINA MILLER. Diving Champions: C. GIBSON, C. ECKWALL, F. WEST, J. OLTEAN (deceased).

1949-58—GOLF—Marlene Stewart—Originally from Cereal, Alberta, near Calgary, attended Memorial, Queen and Central Schools locally before moving to Fonthill — She eliminated Ada McKenzie in Tournament play at the age of 16 and became Ontario Golf Champion at 17 — She has been victorious in the following tournaments — Canadian Open—3 times, Canadian closed—7 times, Ontario Open—3 times, British Open—only Canadian to ever win this title in 60 years. Only Canadian to win the American National Amateur, United States Intercollegiate, North and South American, American National Mixed Foursome, Lou E. Marsh Trophy twice, Sportswriters and Sportscasters Award 3 times for athlete of the year. Also Canadian Woman of the year title several times. There have been many colorful homecomings in the short meteoric career of the pride and joy of Fonthill's Marlene Stewart, but none to compare with the crash of a trans Canada Airlines giant, a 65 ton Super Constellation on Sat.,

Dec. 18, 1954 at Brampton, near Toronto, carrying 23 passengers and crew including Marlene returning for a Christmas holiday from Rollins College in Florida. The plane crash landed in a field. It was engulfed in a few minutes after everybody had reached safety. Only 2 were hurt seriously but none escaped entirely — Marlene's injuries were not serious. She married J. Douglas Streit of Toronto in 1957 and is still taking part in golf tournaments. Fonthill and district can well be proud of the worldwide fame achieved by Marlene. She is without a doubt the greatest feminine amateur golfer in the history of the sport.

WELLAND HOCKEY ARENAS—The first open air ice rink was built on East Main Street near the old Grand Trunk depot in the late 90's. About 1900 a more modern arena was built by Alex Griffith and run by Clayton Page on the present site of the new Post Office. It was called the 20th Century. Curling was carried out on the west side. A big fire in the livery stable behind the rink destroyed it in 1910. These were the days of 7 man hockey, no reserves, dim lights, only sissies wore pads, and players manipulated the puck towards the opponents goal by raising it up into the rafters. Sam Lambert erected a rink at the Fair Grounds in 1912 and fire destroyed it in 1915. Stan Mason was the arena manager at the time and roller skates and equipment were lost in the blaze. In 1919 Lambert erected another rink on North Main Street with "Snooky" Young as Caretaker and rumour has it that he was kept quite busy by the younger generation who had their own private entrances and tunnels into the rink. The roof at the east end collapsed in 1925 and it was never rebuilt. Twenty-two years later a dream became a reality, "The Welland Crowland Arena".

WELLAND FLYING CLUB—Mrs. Dorothy Rungeling of Fenwick, on two occasions winner of the Governor General's Trophy and holder of a number of firsts in women's aviation in Canada has now the honour of being the first woman in the Dominion to possess a Class 1 rating for instrument flying. To date airline pilots are the only group qualified for instrument flight. She has been flying for approximately 10 years.

BASEBALL—SAL MAGLIE 'THE BARBER'—Niagara Falls, N.Y. product, hurled and coached for the Welland Atlas Steels club in 1943-45 is the most prominent baseball luminary in the history of local sport. The Maglie era was without a doubt Welland's zenith in baseball. Welland missed winning the title in 1943, but took it all in 1944 and "The Barber" proved himself a nemesis to the St. Catharines team by holding them to 1 run in over 2 years of play. He was recalled to Jersey City in 1945 and later the New York Giants, The Outlaw League In Mexico — Cuba and Quebec, then Brooklyn Dodgers, Cleveland Indians and at 41 years of age in 1958 to the New York Yankees. His achievements are endless and he almost became one of few pitchers in history who have pitched for all three New York teams in a World Series.

ANGLING—TOURNAMENT CASTING. Welland Club formed in 1938 — Ladies Senior, Junior, and all-around champions included Jas. Murphy Jr., G. Leach, Willa Leach, Marg Tennant, R. Morrison Jr., G. Morrissey, Doug. Eiliot.

AUTHOR'S FOOTNOTE: George Blazetich, who might be called Welland's 'Mr. Sport', belongs to the famous Blazetich baseball family.

Facts About Modern Welland

Location:

Welland is the capital city of Welland County, centrally located in the Niagara Peninsula on the Welland Ship Canal. It is 9 miles from Lake Erie, 17 miles from Lake Ontario, 14 miles from Niagara Falls and 24 miles from Buffalo, New York. 80% of the population of Canada and 60% of the U.S. population is within 500 miles of Welland.

The height above sea-level is 585 feet. Latitude is 42° and 59 minutes, longitude is 79° and 17 minutes. The average temperature over a period of 20 years, during June, July and August was 68 degrees; November to March was 30.2 degrees. Yearly average rainfall—30 inches, and yearly average snowfall—6 feet, 5 inches.

Population:

City of Welland (1957) 17,433
Greater Welland (includes urban Crowland and part of Thorold Township) about 34,000

Railways:

Canadian National, Canadian Pacific, New York Central, Wabash, Pere Marquette, Toronto, Hamilton and Buffalo railways, and an electric line, The Niagara, St. Catharines and Toronto Railway.

Highways:

Running south, Highway No. 58 connects with Highway No. 3 for a direct route to the United States via Fort Erie, only 24 miles distant to the east, and westerly direct to Windsor. Going north is Highway No. 3A connecting with Highway No. 20 direct to Hamilton and Toronto and the Niagara Falls port of entry 14 miles away, and to the Queen Elizabeth Highway only 12 miles due north.

Docks:

With dock facilities on the Welland Ship Canal and direct railway services from the coal producing areas of the United States, bulk freight is easily brought in and rates are extremely low.

Airport:

The Welland municipal airport, situated a few minutes' journey to the west of Welland, occupies an area of one square mile. It was first established as an R.C.A.F. auxiliary station and was taken over to serve the needs of this rapidly growing industrial area. It has been named a customs airport for the convenience of the many tourists, businessmen, and industries using it, and regular daily commuter air service is now established from Welland to St. Catharines to Toronto.

Electricity:

Twenty miles to the north-east the waters of the Niagara River have been harnessed by the Hydro Electric Power Commission at several plants, making this centre one of the greatest power generating sources in the world. As the Welland area is highly industrialized, this power is comparatively cheap.

Rates: Domestic 2.4c per KW down to 1.1c; Commercial 2.1c per KW and 1.0c plus service charge of 5c per 100 watts of demand or connected load; Industrial $1.20 per KW per month service charge; Rate 1.9c for first 50 hours, 1.3c for second 50 hours, balance 0.3c per KWH. Electric power consumption in 1957 was 61,470,083 KWH.

Gas:

Natural gas is supplied the area by Provincial Gas Company whose supply is assured with a substantial surplus to meet the requirements of any new industry. Gas consumption in 1957 was 2,160,474,700 cubic feet.

Industrial rates: First 200 cubic feet 40c per hundred; next 1,800 $1.10 per thousand; next 498,000 at $1.00; next 1,500,000 at 90 cents; next 2,000,000 at 85 cents; next 2,000,000 at 80 cents; next 4,000,000 at 75 cents; over 10,000,000 at 70 cents; (all rates for 1,000 cu. feet).

Water Supply:

The municipally-owned waterworks is capable of producing 9,000,000 gallons per day, which is to be increased in 1958 to 12,000,000 gallons per day. The average daily consumption for 1957 was 4,779,033 gallons.

These figures appear unduly large because water is supplied from the Welland filtration plant to a considerable area outside the city boundaries.

Commerce:

Chamber of Commerce: The Greater Welland Chamber of Commerce, H. F. Edwards, Manager, 76 Division Street, Welland.

Banks: Imperial Bank of Canada—2 branches; Toronto-Dominion Bank (of Canada)—3 branches; Royal Bank of Canada—2 branches; Bank of Nova Scotia; Bank of Montreal; Canadian Bank of Commerce.

Retail Area: Within a radius of 10 miles live over 70,000 people. (Ontario Municipal Directory, 1958).

Average Family Earnings for the year 1956: Welland—$6,131.00; Ontario—$5,446.00; Canada—$4,884.00.

Welland Merchant Sales for the year 1956 was $29,853,000.00 (taken from Sales Management Report of 1957). Being the County Town and occupying a position near the geographical centre of the County, Welland is steadily developing as an important shopping centre. It serves a wide surrounding area, including many of the summer colonies on the Lake Erie shoreline.

Industry:

Welland is primarily an industrial city as a list of the major industries shows:

Atlas Steels Limited	—High speed, tool mining, special steels, stainless steel.
Atlas Titanium Ltd.	—Titanium bars, sheets.
Atherton Woodworking Ltd.	—Custom lumber.
Aylmer Products	—Fruit and vegetable cannery.
Beaver Lumber Company	—Lumber and builders' supplies.
F. O. Boyle & Sons	—Ice.
Clems Ready Mix Ltd.	—Concrete.
Canada Foundries & Forgings Ltd.	—Light and heavy forgings.
Canada Packers Ltd.	—Fertilizers.
Canadian Landis Machine Co.	—Die machinery.
Christie Brown & Co., Ltd.	—Bread manufacturers.
Climatite Aluminum Sash Ltd.	—Aluminum doors and windows.
C-HOW Wellport Radio	—Broadcasting station.
Cellucord of Canada Ltd.	—Cord.
Dominion Fabrics Ltd.	—Towelling and Yarns.
John Deere Welland Works	—Farm Implements.
DiMartile, Joseph & Son	—Cement blocks.
DeSmit Lumber & Building Supplies	—General building supplies.
Electro Metallurgical Co. Division of Union Carbide, Canada, Ltd.	—Ferro alloys and electrodes.
The Evening Tribune	—Daily newspaper.
Ennis & Co.	—Industrial supplies.
El-Mech Tools Ltd.	—Machinists' tools and die designers.
General Die & Machine Co.	—Forgings.
General Tire & Rubber Co. of Can. Ltd.	—Soft and hard rubber products, plastics.
Haun Drop Forge Co.	—Forgings.
Hi-Grade Die and Tool Co.	—Die sinkers.
Hicks Lumber & Building Supplies	—Lumber and building supplies.

Imperial Oil Co.	—Niagara area storage.
Industrial Upholstery	—Upholstery.
Lanagan's Welding & Iron Works, Ltd.	—Welding and erecting.
Linde Air Products	—Hydrogen.
Lambert, Frank L.	—Lumber and building supplies.
Martin Dairy Ltd.	—Ice cream, butter and milk powder.
T. Mester Welding Works	—Welding.
Misco Fabricators, Canada, Ltd.	—Fabricators of stainless steel.
Mixed Concrete Supply Ltd.	—Concrete.
National Refractories Ltd.	—Firebrick.
Niagara Die & Tool Ltd.	—Die makers
Niagara Machine Works	—Production work and repairs.
Niagara Sausage & Meat Products	—Meat packers.
Niagara Lumber and Planing Mill Products Ltd.	—Cabinetmaking and trim.
Niagara Crushed Stone Ltd.	—Crushed stone
Niagara Enterprises	—Upholstery.
National Textiles	—Overalls, uniforms.
Ontario Aluminum Products Ltd.	—Metal doors.
Ontario Upholstery, Ltd.	—Upholstery.
Plymouth Cordage Co. Ltd.	—Rope, bindertwine.
Plymouth Machinery Mfg. Co. Ltd.	—Lawn mowers.
Page Hersey Tubes Ltd.	—Iron and steel, buttweld, lapweld and seamless pipe.
Peninsula Die and Tool Ltd.	—Dies and tools.
Quality Pattern Co.	—Wood patterns.
Rockel Printing Co.	—General printing.
Reliance Electric & Engineering (Canada) Ltd.	—Special motors and transformers.
Rewbury Printing Co.	—Counter sales, checkbooks.
St. Lawrence Alloys and Metal Ltd.	—Metal alloys.
Scott Building Products	—Industrial installations.
Standard Steel Construction Co. Ltd.	—Steel fabricators.
Switson Industries Ltd.	—Precision tools, vacuum Cleaners, floor polishers, small motors, gas heaters and furnaces.
Thermoid of Canada Ltd.	—Brake linings.
Texter Home Appliances	—Metal doors and windows.

United Steel Corp. Ltd.	—Engines and steel equipment, shells.
A. Valencourt Boiler Works	—Boilers and welding.
Vaughan Seed Co. Ltd.	—General seeds.
Welland Printing Co. Ltd.	—General printing.
Welland Packers Ltd.	—Meat packers.
Wonder Bakeries, Ltd.	—District bread and cake distributors.
Welland Winery Ltd.	—Wines and champagnes.
Welland Electric Steel Foundry Ltd.	—Stainless steel castings.
Welland Iron & Brass, Ltd.	—Castings, iron, brass, copper, etc.
Welland Tubes, Ltd.	—Large size seamless pipe.
Whiting Corp. (Canada) Ltd.	—Electric industrial furnaces of all designs.
Welland Dairy Ltd.	—Ice cream, butter.
Weatherwize Aluminum Products	—Metal doors.
Wabasso Cotton Co., Ltd., Empire Cotton Mills Division	—Cotton fabric.

Recreation:

Welland is located in the heart of the Niagara District, whose fruit orchards, vineyards and vegetable gardens have given the area the title of "Garden of Canada". There are 51 acres of fine parks and one of the finest Rose Gardens in the Province. This garden, with others privately owned, has earned for Welland the appellation of "Rose City".

For recreation to go with our parks, we have public tennis courts, a swimming pool, a wading pool, lighted and unlighted baseball grounds, an artificial ice arena with a capacity of 3,400 and a seating capacity of 2,800; an 18-hole golf course, 8-sheet artificial ice curling rink, 3 motion picture theatres and a very fine Little Theatre Group who produce 4 plays each winter season.

Social and Cultural:

Education: Welland High and Vocational School; Notre Dame High School; 10 public schools, 2 separate schools and 1 business college. Also there are 37 churches; 1 public library; an art association; 9 ethnic associations; 18 lodges, a Y.M.C.A., and some 46 other clubs, which cater to women's groups, outdoors men, bookish people, stamp collectors and what have you.

Health and Welfare:

A 160-bed hospital (soon to be replaced with a 200 + bed); a County Home (Sunset Haven); the Welland and District Health Unit; Victorian Order of Nurses; Red Cross; Canadian Legion; City Welfare Office.

Municipal Affairs:

Municipal affairs are under the direction of a Mayor and eight aldermen. Co-operation between the legislative and executive parts of the administration has given the City of Welland good government.

A Town Planning Commission instituted several years ago has now zoned and planned the future growth of the city and district to assure the most economical growth and development of the area.

The Welland Canal in brief:

Length, miles—27½; Locks, number—8; Locks, length, ft.—820; Locks, width, ft.—80; Locks, depth, ft.—30; Depth of Canal—25 feet (now being dredged to a depth of 27 ft.); Depth on lock sills—30 ft.; Time for boat to pass through canal—8 hrs.; Estimated cost of canal—$130,000,000; Work started in 1913; Canal opened in 1931; Lake Erie elevation above sea level—569.0 ft.; Lake Ontario elevation above sea level—242.5 ft.; Total lift of canal—326.5 ft.; Freight carried during 1956—23,068,950 short tons; Number of passages of vessels in 1956—9,953; Handling fees per vessel $25 and $50 per passage.

Welland Service Clubs

Among the oldest continuous welfare organizations in Welland are the service clubs. The Welland Rotary Club was founded 38 years ago, the Lions Club 35 years ago, the Optimists 21 years ago and the Kinsmen 15 years ago.

The Rotary Club has for many years been associated with crippled children's work. The Welland club has provided the necessary treatment and appliances for all crippled children in the Welland-Crowland area whose parents are unable to do so. This club also provides and maintains a fully-equipped cabin at Lakewood Crippled Children's Camp on Lake Erie. In addition to this the Welland club with the Lions club of Port Colborne have equipped and maintained the children's ward in the Welland County General Hospital. Since 1951 Rotary has borne the entire cost of this project.

The Lions club has also concentrated on assisting the ill and handicapped. Nearly 2,000 pairs of glasses to the needy, many eye operations, annual gifts running in the thousands of dollars to the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, donations of $1,250 to Linwell Hall and an ambulance, radios, hot food, wheel chairs, etc., to the Welland hospital are a few of the projects undertaken.

In addition the Lions have given to the Welland Arena $5,750; to the Welland swimming pool $1,900, to the British Flood Victims $1,000, to the Lions British War Victims $1,000, to the Sick Children's Hospital (Toronto) $600, and $1,000 to the Y.M.C.A.

This club has also sponsored swimming meets, minor hockey, minor baseball, free skating and so on.

The Optimist Club is known as "The Friend of the Boy". Two major projects have been the provision of a community wading pool which was handed over to the City of Welland, and the purchase of the old armories on Church Street East for use as a Boys' Town.

The Kinsmen Club has also been much involved in humanitarian projects. Among other things it has supported the Milk for Britain Fund (during World War II), supplied playground equipment for various community parks, assisted the victims of Cerebral Palsy, sponsored and maintained the local School for Retarded Children.

In the future the club intends to erect and maintain a permanent school for retarded children.

Many outstanding men have given their time and treasure to the work of the service clubs. Among these are the late John Volz, Rev. Harvey Forester and Lou Whittaker for the Lions Club, S. O. Mason for the Rotary Club, the late Charlie Parlee, Fred Coyne and W. W. (Bill) Smythe for the Optimists and J. E. Walsh for the Kinsmen.

Bill Smythe and Lou Whittaker both added lustre to the name of Welland by becoming international executives in their respective clubs.

Two new, but flourishing clubs, have been started in the past year or so, the Sertoma Club and the Richelieu Club.

Welland Firemen

PERSONNEL WELLAND FIREFIGHTERS, LOCAL NO. 481—President, Holt Read; Vice-President, Harley Wylde; Secretary-Treasurer, Sam Infantino.

WELLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT—Chief, Cecil Upper; Deputy Chief, Edgar Wilson; Captain, George Shook; Captain, Roy C. Tufts.

FIREMEN—A. Cawthorn, R. Fradette, Duncan Doan, H. Lampman, J. Smith, Geo. Barker, S. Whalen, Fred Tufts, H. Wylde, P. McDonald, J. Karle, J. Pollock, S. Infantino, Stan Gifford, Omer David, J. Wilkinson, R. Garner, Holt Read, M. Dolan.

WELLAND FIRE CO. NO 1—Captain, S. Hill; Lieutenant, S. Roll; Secretary, E. Wilson; Hose Foreman, H. Secord; Ladder Foreman, L. Sauer; Assistant Hose Foreman, F. Duly; Assistant Ladder Foreman, J. Goring.

FIREMEN—V. R. Wright, R. Sauer, T. Jackman, S. Dean, R. Pierce, S. Schaubel, J. Rose, G. Hansen, A. Reid, F. Long, C. Schefter, T. Proctor, F. Fonfara, J. F. Wilson, J. L. Forand, M. Gulas, A. Tamas, J. Infantino, Geo. Ploss, Jr., C. Longfellow, N. Cawthorn, J. Weiss, C. Freedman, B. J. Pierce, F. Villella, J. Belcastro, V. Huntington, R. Morningstar.

PERSONNEL WELLAND VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S CLUB—President, F. Fonfara; Vice-President, J. Goring; Secretary, E. Wilson; Treasurer, V. R. Wright; Assistant Secretary, J. Rose.

DIRECTORS—T. Proctor, F. Villella, C. Freedman, A. Cawthorn, S. Hill, J. Weiss.

TRUSTEES—J. Wilson, C. L. Upper, F. Duly.

MEMBERS—Chief, C. L. Upper; Deputy Chief, E. Wilson; C. Schefter, N. Cawthorn, L. Sauer, J. L. Forand, M. Gulas, J. Belcastro, V. Huntingdon, R. Morningstar, S. Gifford, P. McDonald, Holt Read, S. Whalen, Thos. Bruno, L. D'Amico, E. Harrison, W. Moores, R. Russell, H. R. Waldon, C. Longfellow, T. Jackman, S. Dean, B. J. Pierce, H. Secord, G. Hansen, A. Reid, F. Long, H. Wylde, J. Wilkinson, S. Infantino, M. W. Bolibruck, F. Cooper, H. Franks, K. Langan, W. McPherson, L. Taylor, Irwin Wardell, R. Sauer, S. Roll, R. Pierce, S. Schaubel, A. Tamas, J. Infantino, G. Ploss, G. Shook, D. Doan, H. Lampman, M. Dolan, J. A. Brown, H. L. Cudney, F. Garner, A. Meyers, W. O'Sullivan, J. Torch.

FIREMEN'S DAY COMMITTEE—Honorary Chairman, Chief C. L. Upper; Chairman, F. Fonfara; Vice-Chairman, Holt Read; Secretary, E. Wilson; Treasurer, H. Wylde.

EXECUTIVE—Entertainment, C. Schefter; Publicity, S. Gifford; Parade, D. Doan; Billets, A. Cawthorn.

Welland Police Department - - Then and Now

by Sgt. Walter Stevenson

In order to give a general idea of the beginning of the present police force, we have had to depend on memories, up to the time of the formation of the first police commission when a permanent record was started.

The first police constable was appointed by a motion of Councillors David McCaw and A. R. Schofield back in May, 1859: Whereby Johnathon S. Chipman was named constable and by the end of 1859 he had earned $4.40 in fees. It wasn't any wonder that he resigned in April, 1860. I wonder what took him so long to decide that there was no future in police work. The next policeman that comes into memory is Stogie Estman, who also was janitor of the Council Chambers, which were situated upstairs in the Fire Hall on North Cross Street. He also acted as bell ringer at 12:00 noon and 6:00 p.m., weed inspector, truant officer. His tenure in this position was a busy one at times, and there is no known date as to when he resigned.

Looking back through the minutes of the Police Commission, some of the names of constables hereafter mentioned, will probably stir your memory to some incident whereby you will have had a pleasant or unpleasant experience: Alf Tattersall, George Varley, D. Mann, Thos. Goss, Gunner Chapman, Geo. Minnaker, Harry Willmott, Frank Creasey, Joe Trueman, A. D. Angle, R. D. Milne, David Thomas, W. J. Steep, Ernest R. Walker, Mr. Barkwell, William Vasey, B. M. Fuller, Mr. Bishop, Chas. (Chick) Anderson, Geo. Miner, Wm. McGill, Walter Lee Haun, Thos. Wilson, T. J. Persey, Angus McInnes, John Pretorious, Geo. Hatton, Jack Tattersall, Magistrate Alex Fraser, Patrick J. O'Sullivan, Magistrate J. C. Massie, Owen Stanley, Fred J. Wilson, Walter Stevenson, Hugh Braddon, Wilbert Tallon, Harold Kramer, Richard Moss, Harry Brettell, Harry Read, Robert Hardy, Chas. (Chick) Thompson, Lloyd Taylor (now Bailiff), Maurice Gatfield, Don A. McArter who left this Department for the Ontario Provincial Police, to later return as Chief Constable, Magistrate Campbell, Albert Armstrong, Harry Brettell, Stanley Monaghan, Clifford Johnson, Jos. Anger, Henry Asselin, William Male, Horace Pudge, Thomas Corless, John A. Meyer, H. W. Moore, Roy A. Gram, E. K. Kirk, John D. Thomas, Elmo Schasfer, Cleo Misner, Harold Moon, Stan Whalen, Jas. E. Wilson, Allister Willson, Scott Boyle, John Plemel, John W. Ashburn, H. L. Garrard, Victor Ireland, Jas. Brockelbank, George West, George Duly, Jock Reid.

The first year in which Welland became a city also saw the formation of the Police Commission which consisted of: His Honour Judge L. B. C. Livingstone, His Worshop Magistrate John Goodwin, and His Worship Mayor Mark Vaughn, who also was the first Mayor of the Corporation of the City of Welland (new).

Chief Constable George Laing was then in charge of the Police Department with approximately 3 constables. But even in those days constables were coming and going and advertisements were often placed in Toronto papers requesting applications from Constables. As early as 1920 the Chief Constable was attempting to get new quarters, cells, lockers, etc.

Chief Laing resigned December 31st, 1920, after 12 years on the department, the last 6 years as Chief Constable. W. C. Crabbe was appointed Chief Constable January 1st, 1921, and at that time the department consisted of 6 men. The police department moved along with several resignations and appointments among which in December, 1921, Arthur Davies was appointed a Constable and by October 7, 1922, Davies had attained the rank of Sergeant.

Another appointment of note was in April, 1925, Thomas Gee was appointed Constable. The department functioned until April 8, 1927, when Chief Crabbe resigned and on April 23, 1927, George T. Crowe of Toronto was appointed Chief Constable.

November 17th, 1922, J. Douglas Watt, City Clerk, was appointed Secretary to the Police Commission. In June, 1929, Orval Rounds was appointed as a constable and it was interesting to note that Orval was the first local man who had been educated locally, to receive such appointment. This set a pattern for the Commission and they have made all appointments from local applications wherever possible.

May 31st, 1932, George T. Crowe resigned to take employment with the local brewery. Arthur E. Davies was appointed Acting Chief Constable for the rest of 1932 and his appointment as Chief was confirmed on January 11th, 1933. (May 19th, 1944, Judge H. Fuller attended his first Commission meeting).

March 28th, 1945, the Police Commission moved that a 2-way radio for police be purchased from Northern Electric. September 12th, 1945, Chief Constable Davies tendered his resignation to take effect October 1, 1945, due to ill health. Inspector Thos. Gee was named Acting Chief Constable and shortly thereafter the department was enlarged to a 22-man force.

January, 1948, Magistrate T. G. Street also became a member of the Police Commission. Chief Gee was pensioned off as of December 1st, 1953. Orval Rounds was named Chief Constable as

of January 1st, 1954, and resigned on November 9th, 1956. D. M. McArter was named Chief Constable to take effect December 3rd, 1956. There is now a 28-man department. Detectives Wilson and Tallon elevated to executive positions as in following list of the Department Personnel.

Welland Police Department 1958—Police Commission: His Honour Judge Harold Fuller; His Worship Magistrate T. G. Street; His Worship Mayor A. L. McCrae; Secretary J. D. Watt, City Clerk. (Mayor A. L. McCrae has the outstanding record of holding the office of chairman of the Welland Police Commission for 6 consecutive years. This being the longest term of office for any one chairman to be in charge. This is unusual as the Judge and Magistrate are appointed members and Mayor A. L. McCrae, an elected member, has never ran for the office of Mayor. He having been placed in office each term by acclamation.)

Chief Constable—Donald M. McArter; Deputy Chief—Fred J. Wilson; Inspector—Wilbert Tallon; Sergeants—Owen F. Stanley, Walter T. Stevenson, Harry Brettell, Harry W. Moore; Plainclothesmen—Alexander Herman, Albert Nelson, Martin Walsh; Constables—Wm. A. Male, Cleo C. Misener, A. V. Ireland, Geo. West, Geo. Duly, Robert Gardner, John Chunick, Phillip Williock, Michael Quarmby, Sidney Gardiner, Raymond Johnson, David McCart, Jos. Newburgh, Jas. Reid, Thomas Thompson, Marcel Gratton, Ronald Langel, Edward Owen.

The department now consists of 2 radio patrol cars, 1 radio equipped motorcycle, which patrols some 38 miles of streets, checking business establishments, enforcing the Highway Traffic Act, investigating accidents and in general keeping the peace for the citizens.

New spacious police quarters are finally realized and will soon be in use in the new City Hall purchased from the Atlas Steels Limited.

BURGAR PARK

The people of Welland owe their possession of Burgar Park to a certain stubborn Mr. Edward Hilton.

Mr. Hilton had a farm alongside the Grand Trunk tracks which he refused to part with despite repeated blandishments from slick real estate operators.

And so it remained a wide open space until some foresighted citizen decided that the city needed a ball park.

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